

BAMA

INSIDE THE CRIMSON TIDE

JANUARY, 1983

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 1

A New Era

Also...

- Paul Ott Carruth
- Liberty Bowl Preview
- Football Prospects
- Basketball





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A New Era Underway

A full-page photograph of an older man, Paul William Bryant, standing on a football field. He is wearing a dark suit, a red vest, a white shirt, a dark tie, and a blue and white checkered fedora. He is leaning against a white goalpost with his left hand on his hip. The background shows the green artificial turf of the field, the brown and white bleachers of a stadium, and a clear blue sky with some distant structures.

by Kirk McNair

He has devoted 33 of his 69 years to "Mama," and he's not finished yet. Paul William Bryant is making one more great donation to The University of Alabama. It was his decision that the interests of Alabama football could best be served by turning over the reign. And so the king has abdicated. And among the dozens of qualified heirs to the throne the mantle falls to Ray Perkins, who will complete his fourth year as head coach of the New York Giants before becoming Alabama's 20th head football coach.

Coach Bryant will remain as Alabama's director of athletics and as an assistant to University president Dr. Joab Thomas. Coach Perkins will be on his new job in time for the final thrust of recruiting this year (signing date is February 9th) even if the Giants go as far as the Super Bowl (January 30th).

Thus, on December 29th, in the Liberty Bowl against Illinois, the third great era of Alabama football—its greatest era—comes to an end. And a new era

begins. There is no question that coach Perkins has a tough act to follow, but coach Bryant has kept his promises: the pantry is not bare. When coach Bryant became Alabama's head football coach 25 years ago the program was bankrupt financially and there were precious few football players. Coach Perkins comes to Alabama with no budget problems and the nucleus of a good football team returning.

As the shock of the surprise announcement wears off, two things are apparent: one, coach Bryant had good reasons for making his decision to step down; two, Alabama has replaced him with an outstanding football mind.

Despite his continued mental sharpness and toughness, coach Bryant will be 70 years old on September 11. He has given more than fulltime duty to his job, a job that is wearing on a young, vigorous man. And, despite his disclaimer of doing little coaching, serving as chairman of the board, he has remained an active football coach, planning every minute of every practice, recruiting up until almost the moment of his announcement, making every substitution and major decision in Saturday skirmishes. He is entitled to be weary of it. This year's 7-4 record was a catalyst in the decision, but hardly the reason for the retirement. Coach Bryant had suffered through poor seasons before (albeit, very few of them) and come back fighting, driving his team back to the top. More than the record, perhaps, was the performance. It is inconceivable that coach Bryant is not aware that he is the best that has ever been at his profession; and over the past few years he has had reasons to believe that he was no longer performing to *his* standards. He has suffered through two years of off-the-field problems; he has been disappointed in his ability to motivate football players.

Coaching football is almost certainly not as much fun for him as it once was. He has said that his favorite era was one platoon football, where he could take a few of the toughest and beat about anyone. He's a believer in tough, hard-nosed football and all of the recent rules changes have been away from that brand. He noted earlier this year that playing defense isn't as much fun as it used to be.

One of the most important jobs of a head football coach is recruiting, and this almost certainly played a major role in coach Bryant's decision. He had pointed out in recent years that he was not willing to work as hard at recruiting as he once did. And, more importantly, that he was not going to recruit as hard as his competitors. The fact that he has been deter-



Ray Perkins, who was the top choice among 12 candidates to replace coach Bryant, will become Alabama's 20th head football coach following this year's season. He is currently in his fourth season as head coach of the New York Giants of the National Football League.

New York Giants Photo

mined (correctly) to run an honest program while universities all around him are being nabbed for recruiting violations has added to the difficulties of this chore.

Although coach Bryant and Alabama assistant coaches have reportedly been holding their own in this year's recruiting battle, there is little doubt that the Tide efforts were handicapped by coach Bryant's failure to take a strong position on his future. Over the years coach Bryant has provided answers to questions that were not answers, the most common being "I'm trying to win the game." The answer he wanted Alabama assistant coaches to give prep prospects inquiring of coach Bryant's future was "If I'm not the head coach we'll have a better one," which, of course, was not what they wanted to know. Now the air is cleared. Additionally, a former successful pro coach will have definite appeal to the very best high school players.

Whether or not Alabama now has a better head coach remains to be seen. Coach Perkins would probably be

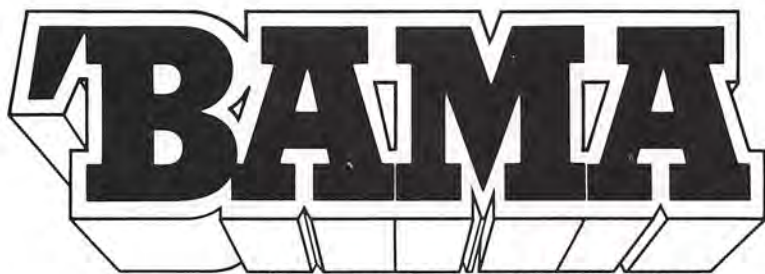
among the first to admit that there is no evidence that he is a better head coach than coach Bryant in his prime. But coach Bryant would be the first to admit that he is no longer in his prime.

One thing is very clear. Alabama elected to make every effort to stay in the forefront of college football by replacing coach Bryant with a man of coach Perkins' stature. For years the general consensus has been that no one could follow coach Bryant, that his successor would be a sacrificial lamb to bridge the gap between what coach Bryant had accomplished and what could realistically be accomplished by anyone else.

In 1958 coach Bryant set Alabama's goal as the national championship, a goal that has been reached six times and just missed a number of others. There is no doubt that Ray Perkins' annual goal will be the national championship.

Paul Bryant came to Alabama in 1932 and became "the other end" to Don Hutson. Ray Perkins came to Alabama in

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INSIDE THE CRIMSON TIDE

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Joel Barnes Photo



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It hasn't always been easy to get his name right, but, partly because of injuries, Paul Ott Carruth is playing in the right position. He's sold on Alabama football and looking forward to a bright future for the Tide **by Al Browning**

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Alabama's most successful football teams have been those with some outstanding players from out of state. Here's a look at some of the top linemen in the Southeast, as well as a few from out of the South. **by Kirk McNair**

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Alabama played in the first Liberty Bowl and has made it to two others before this year's. Here's a look back at previous Bama Liberty Bowl games. **by Al Browning**

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The Liberty Bowl:

A Game Of Contrasts

by Kirk McNair

The 1982 Liberty Bowl football game, putting Alabama against Illinois, is a contest of contrasts. While coaches maintain that defense and kicking win football games, it is the offense that others notice most. And offensively, Illinois and Alabama are worlds apart, the Illini depending on a pro-type passing game, Bama basically a triple option running offense. While Bama's five-man front defense has seen all-too-much of the type offense Illinois will (literally) throw at the Tide, most Illini defenders they will be in a four-man front with three linebackers have not played against a wishbone team. Illinois last played against the wishbone in 1980 in Mississippi State took a 28-21 victory.

There is a big difference in the attitude towards the Liberty Bowl, too. For Alabama it has to be considered a step down. It is the goal of the Tide each year to play in a major bowl for the national championship, and this year's team seemed to have the ability to meet that challenge until the November derailment. For Illinois, the Liberty Bowl is an event. The bowl history of the Fighting Illini can be summed up in one sentence: Illinois has a 3-0 bowl record, all in the Rose, with the 1946 team beating UCLA 45-14, the 1951 team beating Stanford 40-7 and the 1963 team beating Washington 17-7. Alabama's bowl history, of course, is unsurpassed. Bama will be extending national records, playing in its 36th bowl game and 24th consecutive post season contest. Bama has an overall bowl record of 18-14-3, including a 1-2 mark in Liberty Bowls.

Alabama and Illinois have never played

each other in football, and Tide fans would probably recognize only a handful of past Illinois players—Harold "Red" Grange and Dick Butkus, and perhaps Bernie Shively since he served for many years as director of athletics at Kentucky, including when coach Bryant was coach of the Wildcats.

While the game may be viewed as a step down for Alabama, it is important that Bama players consider the game

as a stepping stone, as the Tide's last Liberty Bowl team did. The 1976 team, the last Alabama squad to go to a bowl game with fewer than nine victories, made up its mind to use the game to build for the future. That team destroyed UCLA 36-6 and went on to a near-miss runnerup spot and two national championships in the next three years. The 1977 team was 11-1, but was poll vaulted by Notre Dame despite an impressive Sugar Bowl victory over Ohio State; the 1978 team won the ti-



Although he underwent surgery to remove a bone spur that had hampered him all year, Bama is hoping to have strong safety Tommy Wilcox (15) for the Liberty Bowl game against Illinois.

Spectrum-Southeast Photo

Liberty Bowl Rosters

ALABAMA SQUAD

1 P. Fields	QB	51 M. White	C
2 Sanders	K	52 Smiley	DE
3 Kim	PK	55 Jackson	C
4 J. Jones	SE	56 Hill	LB
5 B. Brown	DB	57 Lowe	LB
6 Simmons	P	58 Mott	C
7 Sprinkle	DB	62 Rumbley	OT
10 Lewis	QB	63 Vickers	OT
11 Coley	QB	65 Holcombe	OG
13 Colbert	DB	66 Brock	OT
15 Wilcox	SS	67 Dismuke	OT
16 Carruth	RB	68 G. Bramblett	OG
17 Florence	CB	69 Schmissrauter	OG
17 Cuda	QB	70 Beazley	OT
19 Castille	CB	71 Cayavec	OT
21 O'Toole	SS	72 Scissum	OG
23 Tripoli	DB	74 Ivy	OT
24 Guinyard	RB	75 McQueen	OT
25 Patrick	RB	76 Adcock	OG
26 Moore	FB	78 Hand	DT
27 Grogan	TE	80 Smith	SE
28 Gay	CB	81 Pitts	DE
30 D. White	SE	83 L. Brown	TE
31 Rodriguez	NG	84 Wagner	DE
32 Elder	FB	85 D. Bramblett	LB
33 Colburn	S	86 Gothard	TE
34 Blue	S	87 Roberts	TE
35 Fagan	RB	88 Bendross	SE
36 C. Fields	RB	89 Wood	DE
39 Horstead	RB	91 Gilmer	NG
40 Henderson	CB	92 King	DE
41 Watts	LB	93 Homan	TE
43 Hood	DB	94 McCrary	DT
44 Turner	FB	95 Elias	NG
45 McRae	LB	96 Edwards	DT
46 Carter	RB	97 R. Jones	LB
49 Booker	LB	98 Cline	DT
50 Brooker	PK	99 Shinn	DT

Alabama Offense

SE - 4	Joey Jones
	88 Jesse Bendross
LT - 70	Joe Beazley
	67 Joe Dismuke
LG - 76	Mike Adcock
	65 Danny Holcombe
C - 58	Steve Mott
	55 Mark Jackson
RG - 68	Gary Bramblett
	72 Willard Scissum
RT - 71	Bob Cayavec
	63 Doug Vickers
TE - 83	Larry Brown
	27 Jay Grogan
QB - 10	Walter Lewis
	11 Ken Coley
LH - 16	Paul Ott Carruth
	25 Linnie Patrick
FB - 26	Ricky Moore
	44 Craig Turner
RH - 46	Joe Carter
	35 Jeff Fagan
	24 Mickey Guinyard

Alabama Defense

LE - 81	Mike Pitts
	92 Emanuel King
LT - 98	Jackie Cline
	78 Jon Hand
NG - 31	Mike Rodriguez
	95 John Elias
RT - 96	Randy Edwards
	94 Tom McCrary
RE - 89	Russ Wood
	52 Anthony Smiley
LLB - 49	Steve Booker
	97 Robbie Jones
RLB - 57	Eddie Lowe
	45 Scott McRae
LC - 19	Jeremiah Castille
	40 Josh Henderson
RC - 28	Stan Gay
	17 Craigie Florence
SS - 15	Tommy Wilcox
	7 Jerrill Sprinkle
S - 33	Rocky Colburn
	34 Al Blue

SPECIALISTS: PUNTER - 6 Malcolm Simmons; PLACEMENT—3 Peter Kim; KICKOFF—2 Terry Sanders; HOLDER—1 Paul Fields; DEEP SNAPS—65 Danny Holcombe; KICKOFF RETURNS—4 Joey Jones, 16 Paul Ott Carruth, 44 Craig Turner; PUNT RETURNS—16 Paul Ott Carruth, 30 Darryl White.

ILLINOIS SQUAD

2 Jenner	QB	45 McBain	FB
3 Eason	QB	46 Murphy	FB
4 Martin	SE	48 Bass	K
5 Sigourney	P	51 Hogan	LB
8 White	K	52 Stanley	C
9 Heaven	CB	53 Butkus	DT
10 Trudeau	QB	54 Helle	OG
11 Passmore	WR	55 Linger	C
12 Swoope	S	57 Byrd	LB
13 Ryles	FB	58 Schulte	OG
15 Damron	QB	59 Babyar	OG
16 Varrige	DB	61 Brady	LB
17 Williams	WR	63 Haynes	LB
18 Pugh	SS	66 Miller	OG
19 Brown	WR	67 Collier	OT
20 Wilson	WR	68 McQuinn	C
21 Curtis	RB	70 Stowe	OG
22 Butcher	DB	71 Juriga	OT
23 Osby	LB	72 Erlandson	OT
24 Carroll	DB	76 Janata	OT
25 Foresman	FB	78 Epps	ED
26 Beverly	RB	79 Ward	OT
27 Edwards	SS	80 Gordon	TE
28 Bishop	CB	81 Brewster	TE
30 Jones	S	82 DeOliver	TE
31 Burgard	LB	83 Bias	LB
32 Zirbel	CB	84 Carter	LB
33 Brookins	RB	85 Johnson	DE
35 Miles	FB	87 Gillen	DE
36 Weingrad	LB	88 Boatright	WR
38 Glielmi	LB	91 Cole	DE
39 Sewall	DB	92 Gregus	DT
40 Benson	SE	96 Thorp	DT
41 Krueger	LB	98 Mulchrone	DT
42 Rooks	FB	99 Thompson	DT
43 Armstead	CB		

Illinois Offense

SE - 4	Mike Martin
	40 Cam Benson
LT - 76	John Janata
	79 Brian Ward
LG - 58	Rick Schulte
	66 Bob Miller
C - 54	Mark Helle
	55 Adam Linger
RG - 59	Chris Babyar
	70 Bob Stowe
RT - 71	Jim Juriga
	67 Steve Collier
TE - 81	Tim Brewster
	80 Miguel DeOliver
QB - 3	Tony Eason
	2 Kris Jenner
RB - 21	Joe Curtis
	26 Dwight Beverly
	33 Mitchell Brookins
FB - 46	Mike Murphy
	13 Richard Ryles
	42 Thomas Rooks
WR - 17	Oliver Williams
	20 Kirby Wilson

Illinois Defense

LE - 78	Nick Epps
	85 Mike Johnson
LT - 92	Dan Gregus
	98 Pete Mulchorne
RT - 96	Don Thorp
	53 Mark Butkus
RE - 91	Terry Cole
	87 Ken Gillen
SLB - 57	Darryl Byrd
	84 Archie Carter
MLB - 36	Mike Weingrad
	61 Ed Brady
	83 Moe Bias
WLB - 63	Clint Haynes
	23 Vince Osby
SC - 43	Charles Armstead
	28 Dennis Bishop
WC - 9	Mike Heaven
	32 Craig Zirbel
SS - 27	David Edwards
	18 Dwayne Pugh
S - 12	Craig Swoope
	30 Mark Jones

SPECIALISTS: PUNTER—5 Chris Sigourney; PLACEMENT—48 Mike Bass; KICKOFF—Mike Bass; HOLDER—15 Tim Damron; DEEP SNAPS—54 Mark Helle, 55 Adam Lingner; KICKOFF RETURNS—26 Dwight Beverly, 40 Cam Benson, 46 Mike Murphy; PUNT RETURNS—4 Mike Martin, 20 Kirby Wilson

tle by defeating Penn State in the Sugar Bowl; and the 1979 team defended that title with an undefeated season that included a Sugar Bowl win over Arkansas.

Unlike the 1976 team, this Bama squad could go into the Liberty Bowl at less than full strength, particularly in the critical area of the defensive backfield; and specifically at strong safety. Tommy Wilcox, who was hampered throughout the season with a bone spur in his ankle (causing him to miss three full games and much of the other eight games), under went surgery immediately following Bama's loss to Auburn. Although he hopes to be back working and full speed for the game, he has to be considered questionable. Jerrill Sprinkle, who saw duty at three secondary spots during the year and particularly at strong safety when Wilcox was out, suffered a concussion against Southern Miss, was held out of the Auburn game, and also must be considered questionable for the Liberty Bowl. That would leave Bama with only two experienced men to fill the two safety spots, Rocky Colburn and Al Blue, both of whom are really more suited to free safety than strong safety. Offensive tackle Joe Beazley, who missed the Auburn game with a broken shoulder, is expected back for the Liberty Bowl.

For the past few years the Tide has treated bowl preparation very seriously, which translates to fullspeed contact work and lots of conditioning. This year was expected to be no exception. After two weeks off except for some conditioning, Bama was to begin work December 13 (final examination week, which could be somewhat disruptive) and continue in Tuscaloosa through December 21. Players were to be excused until Christmas, reporting back on December 25 and then going to Memphis to continue preparations on December 26. Bama headquarters in Memphis is the Rivermont.

The game will kick off at 7 p.m. CST Wednesday, December 29. The game is being televised on cable and by a few selected individual non-cable channels, but not by a major network.

Statistically, Alabama and Illinois appear to be well-matched. Both have 7-4 records going into the Liberty Bowl; the Tide averaged 28.8 points per game (20th nationally), Illinois 29.4 (18th nationally); Bama gave up 18.2 points per game, the Illini 18.9; Alabama averaged 421 yards per game (13th nationally,) Illinois 418.5 (16th nationally); and Bama gave up 307.6 yards per game, Illinois 350.5. The Illini ranked fourth in the nation



Sophomore fullback Ricky Moore has been the Tide's leading rushing the past two seasons. The success he has against Illinois will probably have a big bearing on how Bama performs in the Liberty Bowl January 29.

Spectrum-Southeast Photo

in passing offense, while Bama was ninth in rushing offense.

One area in which Alabama is close to few teams is turnovers. The Tide set a new negative school record this season with 36 (12 passes intercepted, 23 fumbles lost), breaking the old mark of 34 set in 1952. The Tide collected 37 turnovers from opponents. Bama opponents turned Tide turnovers into 66 points with LSU (10 points), Tennessee, Southern Miss and Auburn (14 points each) the big gainers as those points were all the margin of victory. That doesn't include two blocked kicks that resulted in 10 points allowed. Illinois turned it over 22 times, but capitalized on 30 turnovers.

Bama could start as few as seven seniors (two on offense, five on defense), as many as 13 (six on offense, seven on

defense). Illinois is expected to start 10 seniors (seven on offense, three on defense). Illinois quarterback Tony Eason and four of his five eligible receivers among the starters are all seniors.

While Alabama lost its last three games, Illinois lost two of its final three, but defeated Indiana 48-7 in the finale. The Illini completed their season November 13, two weeks before Bama played Auburn.

Alabama's 1982 schedule, which appeared to be a weak one in pre-season accounting, turned out to be the fourth most difficult in the nation, according to the formula devised by the NCAA. Penn State had the most difficult. Illinois didn't rank in the top five statistically in schedule toughness, but the losses by the Illini were certainly to respectable teams—Pittsburgh, Ohio State, Iowa and Michigan.

Illinois Scouting Report:

The Eason & Company Powerhouse

by Laurie Kiely

If the Fighting Illini, under the direction of third year coach Mike White, stick to the same game plan which led to their 7-4 season and pitted them against Alabama in the Liberty Bowl, as they no doubt will, the aerial antics of senior quarterback Tony Eason will be the mode of the day. It has been the spectacular throwing to a host of accommodating targets which has been the impetus of the University of Illinois' successful football strategy.

According to one Big Ten Conference coach who faced Illinois during the season, "If Alabama wants to stop Illinois they must stop Eason. Illinois plays an outstanding passing game. Eason is a heady quarterback, who knows what to do under pressure and can successfully execute. When a team meets Illinois you can bet Eason will come up with the big plays which will mean the difference between winning and losing."

"Champaign" Tony's statistics are testimony to his potential. The 6-4, 205 quarterback owns or shares nine NCAA passing and total offense records, nine Big Ten records, and six school records. Eason's assault on the record books culminated this season as he connected on 278 of 450 passes for a .615 percentage, 17 touchdowns, and 3,248 yards. These incredible senior year accomplishments made his career offensive marks a remarkable 526 of 856 passes for a .611 percentage as he scored 37 touchdowns and gathered 6,608 yards. Although an impressive passer, Eason's running ability is limited. This year his net rushing yardage was a dismal 10 yards. However, that 10 yards combined with his passing

The Illinois team is sparked by the spectacular passing ability of senior Tony Eason. The 6-4, 205 Eason owns or shares in nine NCAA records, nine Big Ten records, and six school records.

University of Illinois Photo



statistics ranks third in the nation for total offense at 3,348 yards.

Eason never could have compiled those statistics without the aid of his talented receiving corps. The Illini quarterback completed passes to at least seven different receivers in every game this season. His number one target is split end Mike Martin who has caught at least one pass in 32 straight games. The 5-10, 175 pound senior is second in the nation with 6.3 receptions per game this season for a total of 941 yards. In this year's Ohio State game Martin grabbed a school record 12 passes for 177 yards.

While Eason can count on Martin to be ready to make a catch, it is Eason's ability to throw to a variety of receivers which makes him such an offensive threat. The opposing coach remarks, "Eason can read defenses tremendously well and so he reacts and knows who to throw to. The best way to defend Illinois is in a zone defense because you have to be able to cover the whole field because Eason has the ability to throw to anybody."

Eason did just that this season as he averaged completions to 8.2 different players per game. He completed 123 passes to wide receivers, 98 to running backs, and 57 to tight ends. Although Martin was his favorite marker, Tim Brewster caught more passes in one year than any tight end in Illinois history as he nabbed 46 passes for 550 yards while Oliver Williams brought down 35 passes for a total of 573 yards.

"While the passing game is the Illinois key to success, their running game may be their greatest weakness. They control the game with the pass so they have not developed a good power running game," comments the opposing coach.

The Illinois running game has resulted in 1350 net yards in 391 carries for 122.7 yards per game average. Leading the Illini rushers is Dwight Beverly with 74 attempts for 393 yards followed by Richard Ryles who has compiled 353 yards on 84 attempts. In total Illini running backs are averaging 5.3 yards everytime they touch the football with a 4.4 yard average per rush and 8.3 yard average per pass reception.

Another bright spot in the Illinois offense is their kicking game conducted by senior Mike Bass. A right-footed, soccer-style kicker, Bass has set six NCAA

University of Illinois head coach Mike White is in his third year as the man in control of the Illini. His efforts have brought the Illinois squad to a bowl game for the first time since 1964.

University of Illinois Photo



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records, as well as, five Big Ten records. He was 23-26 field goals this season and only missed one of 33 PAT kicks.

An important factor in the Illini success this season has been their fourth quarter performances in which they have out-scored their opponents 101-43. Ironically, although the Illinois' fourth quarter efforts have put them on the winning side in most of their 1982 contests, in three of their four losses they saw the decision come down to the final minutes of play. The fourth quarter played no significant role in the 20-3 loss to Pittsburgh. However, in the 26-21 loss to Ohio State the Buckeyes kicked a late field goal then sacked Eason for a safety. Against Iowa, the Hawkeyes kicked a field goal in the last minute to win 14-13 and in the Michigan game, the Wolverines stopped Illinois on a fourth down play at the Michigan two-yard line in the final minute.

"While you can count on Eason and Martin to come up with the big plays, the Illinois defense has trouble stopping the big play. They play a man to man defense and thus are prone to giving up the big play," observed the opposing coach.

Defensively, the Illini gave up an average of 182.2 yards in first halves and an average 168.3 yards in the second halves. On the ground, the Illinois' opposition is averaging 142.4 yards per game and averaging 208.1 yards in the air.

A defensive strength which may play havoc with the Alabama offense is the Illini's ability to stop the pass. The Illinois defense has sacked quarterbacks 35 times this season, an average of 3.2 times each game. And if a quarterback does get a pass off, the Illinois defenders are ready to snatch it. This season they picked off 19 passes and returned them for 284 yards and two touchdowns.

There is no question about Illinois' offensive ability and its defense has been an adequate compliment throughout the season. However, according to the opposing coach Illinois' advantage over a team runs even deeper. "You can be sure that the Illinois team and the coaches will know all about Alabama before taking them on. They will be ready. They will pass and they will know all about Alabama's ability to cover the pass. In some areas, such as overall speed, Illinois probably is not as good as Alabama. But I can guarantee you Illinois will be ready for anything and will be able to compensate for almost anything."

So, the Illini's knowledge of Alabama and their offense under the direction of

Eason are certain to work to their advantage. Another factor working in Illinois' favor is their enthusiasm. Unlike Alabama, a bowl invitation, even to the Liberty Bowl, is a reason for celebration for the team

and their fans. It has been 18 seasons since Illinois participated in a post-season bowl. The last time was when Dick Butkus led the Fighting Illini to a win over Washington in the 1964 Rose Bowl.

Illinois Final Statistics

RESULTS

Illinois 49, Northwestern 12
Illinois 23, Michigan State 16
Illinois 47, Syracuse 10
Pittsburgh 20, Illinois 3
Illinois 42, Minnesota 24
Illinois 38, Purdue 34
Ohio State 26, Illinois 21
Iowa 14, Illinois 13
Michigan 16, Illinois 10
Illinois 48, Indiana 7

TEAM STATISTICS

	Illinois	Opp.
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	239	220
By Rushing	93	97
By Passing	138	101
By Penalty	8	22
RUSHING (Net Gain)	1350	1567
Yards Gained	1651	2012
Yards Lost	301	445
Attempts	391	443
Average Yards Per Attempt	3.5	3.5
PASSING (Net Gain)	2254	2289
Attempts	453	359
Completions	279	162
Had Intercepted	15	19
Percentage	.616	.451
Average Yards Per Pass	7.2	6.4
Average Yards Per Game	295.8	208.1
TOTAL OFFENSE (Net Gain)	4604	3856
Total Plays	844	802
Yards Per Play	5.5	4.8
Plays Per Game	76.7	72.9
Yards Per Game	418.5	350.5
PUNTING (Yards)	2211	2541
Number	54	64
Average Yards	40.9	39.7
Had Blocked	0	1
KICKOFF RETURNS (Yards)	417	596
Number	25	32
Average Return	16.7	18.6
PUNT RETURNS (Yards)	238	78
Number	24	21
Average Return	9.9	3.7
TD Returns	1	0
INTERCEPTIONS	19	15
Total Yards	284	262
Average Return	14.9	17.5
TD Returns	2	1
FUMBLES (Number - Lost)	15-7	26-11
PENALTIES (Number - Yards)	92-820	62-461
TIME OF POSSESSION (Average)	31:06	28:54
POINTS SCORED	323	208
Touchdowns	36	26
Field Goals (Made-Attempted)	23-26	9-17
Extra Points (1-point)	32-33	19-22
Extra Points (2-point)	2-3	1-4
Safeties	1	2
SCORE BY QUARTERS		
Illinois	81	81
Opponents	50	45
DEFENSIVELY	Tackles	Assists
Weingard	41	25
Byrd	40	15
Haynes	33	19
Butkus	32	15
Thorpe	25	19
Edwards	29	15
Heaven	32	8
Jones	28	10
Swoope	23	14
Burgard	30	5
Gregus	23	11
Brady	25	6
Armstead	22	9
Cole	1-2	18

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING	Att	Gain	Loss	Net	Ave	TD	LP
Beverly	74	393	3	390	5.3	2	22
Ryles	84	378	25	353	4.2	0	25
Curtis	67	268	5	263	3.9	4	20
Rooks	32	212	0	212	3.9	4	30
Brookins	31	80	4	76	2.5	6	10
Murphy	21	72	8	64	3.0	0	18
Eason	73	272	227	10	0.1	1	22
Stroughter	5	7	0	7	1.4	2	4
Martin	1	4	0	4	4.0	0	4
Jenner	2	0	10	-10	-5.0	0	0
Sigourney	1	0	19	-19	-19.0	0	0
PASSING	Att	Comp	Int	Pct	Yds	TD	LP
Eason	450	278	15	.618	3248	17	80
Jenner	3	1	0	.333	6	0	6
RECEIVING	No	Yards	Ave.	TD	LP		
Martin	69	941	13.6	5	80		
Brewster	46	550	12.0	0	43		
Murphy	35	265	7.6	1	17		
Williams	35	573	16.4	6	47		
Ryles	25	101	4.0	0	15		
Brookins	16	233	14.6	4	50		
Wilson	16	190	11.9	1	43		
Curtis	13	128	9.8	0	31		
DeOliver	11	157	14.3	0	32		
Beverly	9	88	9.8	0	24		
Benson	3	21	7.0	0	11		
Rooks	1	7	7.0	0	7		
SCORING	TD	X-1	X-2	FG	Safety	Total	
Bass		32-33		23-26		101	
Brookins	10		0-1			60	
Williams	6		2-2			40	
Martin	5					30	
Curtis	4					24	
Stroughter	2					12	
Beverly	2					12	
Wilson	2					12	
Murphy	1					6	
Rooks	1					6	
Eason	1					6	
Heaven	1					6	
Armstead	1					6	
Team					1	2	
PUNTING	No	Yards	Ave	LP	Blocked		
Sigourney	54	2211	40.9	67	0		
ALL RETURNS	Kickoff		Punt		Int'c'ns		
	No.	Yds.	No.	Yds.	No.		
Beverly	3	62					
Wilson	16	278	12	114			
Rooks	1	16					
Passmore	2	27	1	0			
Miles	2	24					
Benson	1	10					
Sewall			1	23			
Martin			9	93			
Williams			1	8			
Byrd					1		
Heaven					4		
Jones					1		
Swoope					5		
Armstead					3		
Bishop					2		
Bias					1		



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- Some of the greatest players and teams in Alabama history (including the National Champions of 1973, 1978, 1979, and SEC Champions of 1973, 1974, 1975, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1981) have practiced and played here.
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Scouting Reports:

SEC Basketball Opponents

by Lisa Meigs

There's a strong case for the Southeastern Conference being the most difficult basketball league in the nation. And there's really solid evidence that the SEC is the most balanced basketball conference. Last year the SEC sent three teams (tournament winner Alabama and regular season co-champions Kentucky and Tennessee) to the NCAA and three teams (Georgia, LSU and Ole Miss) to the NIT.

Tennessee and Kentucky suffered five conference losses each, while runner-up Alabama had six. The SEC teams knocked each other around so badly that for the first time since 1973 no league team finished in the nation's top ten.

Coach Sanderson feels that Bama has a tough draw in this year's SEC double round robin schedule. How can that be when every team plays every other team both home and away? It's because Bama plays four of its first six games on the road and the two home games are against teams expected to be among the league's best, Kentucky and Vanderbilt.

Here's a closer look at Bama's conference foes, all of which will be played once each in January and once each in February or March.

FLORIDA

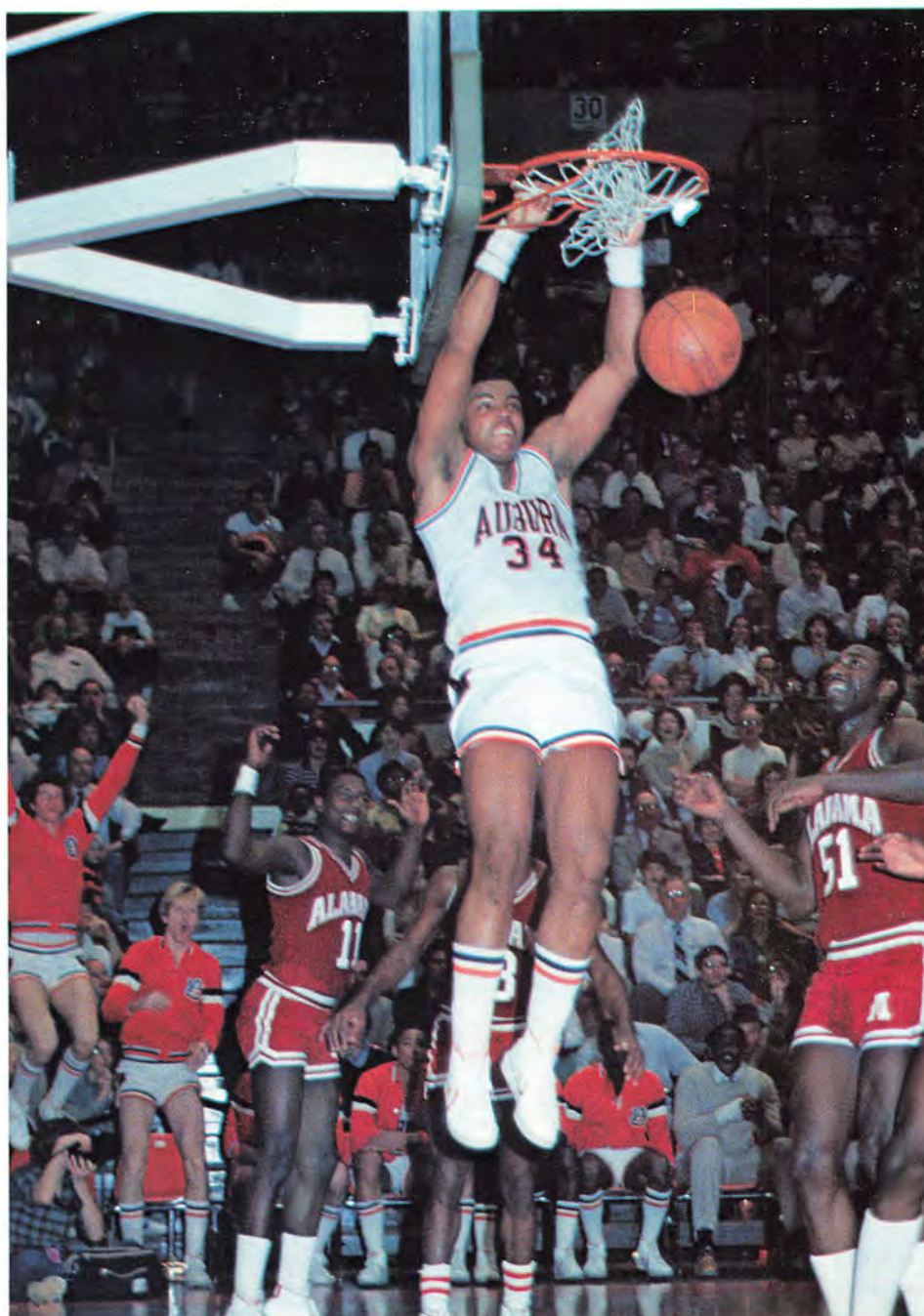
January 3 - Gainesville

March 3 - Tuscaloosa

Coach Norm Sloan and his Florida Gators are calling the 1982-83 basketball season a rebounding year. This year the Gators combine talent with experience to try to improve the disastrous 5-22 record posted last year.

One of the finest players in the SEC the Crimson Tide must contend with is Auburn's Charles Barkley who proved himself as an all-round player last season.

TIGERS Magazine—Sam Oliver



Florida will be looking to 6-8, 225-pound junior forward Ronnie Williams to power the Gator front line. Last year Williams led the conference with 21.3 points per game and a season total of 575 points. Williams was the second leading rebounder for Florida, averaging 8.2 rebounds per game, placing him fourth in the conference standings.

Eugene McDowell, 6-8, 225-pound center returns for his sophomore season with an established reputation for his play under the basket. In his debut season McDowell grabbed enough rebounds to place him second in the conference. He averaged 8.8 per game.

The Gator front men, though young, were not coach Sloan's real concern after last season. "Technically the weakness of the year's team centered around our guard play. There was not enough size at the second guard spot. Size and outside shooting should make the difference this year," he says.

Charles Griffin, 6-5, is one of the players the Gators hope can close some of the gaps in this position. Griffin was named all-state, all-conference and all-regional as a junior college player last year.

AUBURN

January 5 - Auburn
March 6 - Tuscaloosa

Auburn basketball is afforded a luxury this year that has been noticeably lacking in the recent past. For the first time in five years coach Sonny Smith can rely on a crew of experienced players. The Tigers feature five returning starters from a team that went 14-14 last year with a 7-11 conference record.

Seniors at the heart of the team should provide an ample leadership corps. Odell Mosteller (6-3), led the Tigers in scoring with a 15.9 average and in steals (30). Last year was Mosteller's first season with Auburn as a junior college transfer and made third team All-SEC.

Senior point guard Byron Henson broke into the starting lineup late last season because of his steady play. He took the job from Paul Daniels who led the team in assists and was fourth in the SEC. Daniels and Henson should split time at the starting guard spot this season.

Senior Alvin Mumphord (6-2), is now at a guard spot and will be replaced at small forward by senior Earl Hayes (6-5, 225) or junior Greg Turner (6-7, 210). Senior forward Darrell Lockhart (6-9, 235) has no challengers at the front line spot he has occupied for 74 consecutive games.

Sophomore center, Charles Barkley

(6-6, 260) begins his second year at Auburn after a brilliant first season. He led the SEC in rebounding last year, the second freshman ever to do so, with 9.8 rebounds per game and set an Auburn record for blocked shots in a season with 51. Barkley was named to *Basketball Weekly's* freshman All-America squad, and was a second team All-SEC selection.



LSU's Howard Carter

KENTUCKY

January 8 - Tuscaloosa
February 5 - Lexington

Since Sam Bowie signed with the University of Kentucky the country has known that the Wildcats would continue to be a force to be reckoned with. Bowie's first two seasons with the Kentucky program produced statistics that showed on paper what everyone had known, the 7-1, 230-pound center would have no trouble making the grade in NCAA basketball. He started 61 of 62 games averaging 15 points and 8.5 rebounds per game. Last year though Bowie took a redshirt because of a nagging stress fracture in his left leg. This year is still a question mark for Kentucky on Bowie's ability to return to the lineup.

With or without Bowie, Joe B. Hall's Wildcats are tough. Returning players include Dirk Minnifield, Derrik Hord, Charles Hurt and a trimmer Melvin Turpin.

Minnifield was All-SEC last year. The 6-3 guard is only five assists short of Kyle Macy's school record of 470. Last year he averaged 11.3 points per game and will be the Cats number one ball handler again this year. Hord was Kentucky's leading scorer last year averaging 16.3 points per game with a total of 490 for the year. Hord

will fill most of his playing time in the small forward spot this year. Hurt will continue his steady play and bring his physical strength back under the boards for the Wildcats. Add to these the dazzle of Dicky Beal, the outside shot of Jim Master and three of last season's most sought after recruits, Roger Harden, top prep guard in the nation last year, Todd May (6-8) with all the makings of a top power forward, and Kenny Walker (6-8) leaper extraordinaire and the University of Kentucky has yet another fine outlook for the 1982-83 season.

VANDERBILT

January 11 - Tuscaloosa
February 8 - Nashville

Former Alabama basketball coach, C. M. Newton, enters his second season at the helm of the Vanderbilt Commodores. Last year Vandy posted a 15-13 overall record finishing seventh in the Southeastern Conference.

This year coach Newton's team features nine returning lettermen, including four starters. The front line for the Commodores does have its work cut out in trying to replace graduated All-SEC center Willie Jones. Three other Vandy players, Paul Kuiper, Kevin Linder and Al Miller were lost to transfer, dealing Vandy's strength in the lane another blow.

Jeff Turner (6-9) is preparing to make the move from his starting forward position to center. Freshman marksman Phil Cox returns after his stellar shooting performance earned him a berth on the All-SEC Freshman squad last year. Cox was Vandy's second leading scorer last year and Turner was third. In all the Commodores should continue the upward movement of their rapidly building program.

GEORGIA

January 15 - Athens
February 12 - Tuscaloosa

In just four years Coach Hugh Durham has led the Georgia Bulldogs to two post season tournaments, the first in the school's history. Returning to this year's squad are three starters, but the two spaces vacated in the lineup are big holes to fill. Gone is Eric Marbury, high scoring guard, and consensus All-America forward Dominique Wilkins.

Vern Fleming (6-5) will lead the Dog's backcourt attack at either swing or point guard. Derick Floyd returns after battling back from two knee operations last year, and strong perimeter shooter, Gerald Crosby of Birmingham, is back.

"The backcourt will be talented and deep with a senior, two juniors, a sophomore and two freshmen, all challenging for playing time," Durham says. The front court has two starters returning but lacks size. Terry Fair, (6-7, 210) will be counted on to anchor the board play. Forward James Banks, (6-6, 215) will continue in the starting role he has played since coming to Georgia.

TENNESSEE

January 18 - Knoxville
February 14 - Tuscaloosa

Last year Tennessee split regular season Southeastern Conference honors with Kentucky and this year four of the five starters from last year's team will try to repeat an SEC Championship. Every season since Don DeVoe took charge of the Volunteer program in 1978 the Vols have been in the NCAA Tournament.

All-America forward Dale Ellis (6-7) returns to the Tennessee lineup after being named SEC Player of the Year last season. Ellis averaged 21.2 points per game and 6.3 rebounds from his high post spot. Michael Brooks filled in for Gary Carter last season and won a name for himself at the wing position. Also returning are guard Tyrone Beaman and forward Willie Burton.

The Volunteers finished last season with a 20-10 record on the year and a 13-5 record in the SEC. This year Tennessee is ranked in the pre-season polls and Dale Ellis is the primary reason. The only open starting position promises to have a real battle to decide just who deserves to play there among Tennessee's quality reserves. Steve Ray's loss provides the break for talented sophs Kevin Woods, Jerald Hyatt and Kirk Naler to prove themselves.

LSU

January 22 - Tuscaloosa
February 19 - Baton Rouge

When it rains it pours and for coach Dale Brown things have been pretty wet. This year the LSU Tigers have only 11 players on scholarship and of that number there are some definite questions. Senior forward Leonard Mitchell and sophomore center Steffond Johnson both had off-season surgery to contend with. Add to what the loss of senior Joe Costello and sophomore standout Derrick Taylor and things could look gloomy for the Bengals.

Still, senior forward Howard Carter, All-SEC, is a preseason choice for the All-America squad this year. Last year Carter averaged 16.7 points per game leading

the Bengals in scoring. The 6-5 Carter can play either guard or forward.

Four of five starters return to the squad that went 14-14 on the year, finishing fourth in the SEC last season. Tyrone Black (6-8, 215) will fill the forward-center position. He averaged 5 points per game last season. Possible candidates for the guard positions include Johnny Jones and John Tudor both juniors who have played in a starting capacity before.

OLE MISS

January 24 - Tuscaloosa
February 21 - Oxford

Ole Miss welcomes new head coach Lee Hunt to the Rebel program. Coach Hunt has been an assistant to UAB Coach Gene Bartow at Memphis State, Illinois, UCLA and UAB. He hopes to continue the recent success of the Ole Miss Rebels that has taken the team to post-season play at the NIT and the NCAA Tournament for the past three years.

Hunt comes in with high praise for two graduated Rebels. Ole Miss lost front-line reserve Tim Thomas and All-SEC guard Sean Touhy. "We'll miss Touhy in particular, because he was almost like a coach on the floor," coach Hunt says.

The Rebels do return ten players who demonstrated a will to win. Carlos Clark, All-SEC and All-America a year ago, will be a key returnee for Ole Miss. Clark was the

team's leading scorer last year averaging 21.1 points per game. His shot accuracy was 62.2 percent, good enough to rank him third in the conference.

Roger Stieg, 6-9 center, led the rebounding corps with 5 rebounds per game. He returns for his final season to provide the Rebels with veteran play under the basket. Also returning to the Ole Miss front line attack is 6-7 sophomore George Buckner.

MISSISSIPPI STATE

January 31 - Starkville
February 26 - Tuscaloosa

The Mississippi State Bulldogs will be trying to climb up the ladder of the SEC this year. Last year's team went 8-19 overall and 4-14 in the conference, finishing ninth out of ten.

Coach Bob Boyd looks to top returnees Jeff Malone, Terry Lewis and Kalpatrick Wells to pace the Bulldog effort in 1982-83. Malone was All-SEC for a second year last season leading the State scoring stats with 18.6 points per game, placing him fifth in the SEC. Lewis returns to the guard spot after playing forward as a junior. Wells brings a 7.8 rebounds per game average into his senior campaign with the club.

Butch Pierre, the SEC's fifth leading assist man returns to the lineup, along with Jeff Norwood also an experienced, capable guard.

Bama Faces Experienced Bruins

When the Crimson Tide clashes with the UCLA Bruins on January 28 in sunny California, it may very well be the toughest opponent Alabama will tangle with during regular season play. Last season the Bruins started out slow by losing their first three games but bounced back to finish the season 21-6. However, UCLA was on NCAA probation and consequently was not eligible to compete in post-season play.

This year the Bruins are off probation and return many of the players who propelled the squad to last year's successful campaign. The backcourt is filled with experience as three regulars are back in the line-up. Senior "Rocket" Rod Foster, who set an NCAA ne-season record for free throw accuracy (.950) last year has been a regular since his freshman year. Foster, at 6-1, figures to be one of the nations finest guards this season. He averaged 10.3 points a game last season which included a 35 point performance against Oregon. Also back in the UCLA attack is junior Ralph Jackson who started in all 27 games last year and tallied 111 assists

and 38 steals. Jackson and Foster are joined by Michael Holton, a 6-3 senior, who consistently sparks the Bruins when he comes off the bench.

The frontcourt is also blessed with talent in the play of Kenny Fields, Stuart Gray, and Darren Daye. Daye has enjoyed an outstanding career at UCLA serving as a regular since his freshman season when the team reached the NCAA championship game. The 6-8 Daye gathered 61 assists, averaged 3.9 rebounds, averaged 8.0 points and had a .543 field goal percentage last year. Another threat is found in the antics of the 7-0 sophomore Gray. As a freshman he started 26 games and averaged 4.9 points, 4.8 rebounds and was .514 from the field.

UCLA's most effective weapon can be found in All-America candidate Fields. The 6-7 Fields earned a spot on last year's All-PAC 10 team by averaging 13.9 points and 5.9 rebounds. In addition his seasonal field goal percentage of .552 ranked seventh in the conference and he also converted .714 of his free throw attempts.

Women's Athletics:

Senior Year Plans

by Gay Sievers

The end of a college career can be a sad time. But for Anne Marie Milling her senior year is exciting.

As the only four year member of the squad, the freestyle sprinter is so enthusiastic she's like one of the freshmen.

"The most exciting time in my career is right now," says the five-time collegiate All-American, "because Alabama's team has grown so much over my four years.

"It's exciting to see a freshmen class who came in ready to do something. Freshmen usually freeze in early season meets, but this group is beating the upperclassmen and they're being noticed. They're not out to hurt anyone. They are glad to be at Alabama and to do whatever they can to help this team."

When Milling came to Tuscaloosa in 1979, she was one of 12 freshmen and a total of 30 on the Tide women's team. On the 1983 team, Milling and Liz Hobbs, who sat out the 1982 season with a shoulder injury, are their only seniors.

Milling's team consciousness and her experience got her, along with junior freestyler Carol Landry, elected co-captains for 1983.

"Before, our team was always the pioneer with 30 girls, but few of them could place really well," says the runner-up in the 50 yard freestyle at the 1982 Southeastern Conference Championship.

"Then the squad dropped to 15 and the team had a hard time. Everyone did the best they could, but the opponents had large teams, and it was so frustrating.

"But Title 9 (education's anti-discrimination statute) has helped us. We lost a part-time coach and got coach Don



Anne Marie Milling

Gambril. Since then (1979-80) we've been gaining recognition and getting more talented swimmers.

"We're even getting support from the

men's team and that is helping us swim better this year. We feel like we've earned respect and the men are looking up to us. Alabama will continue to go up and up. The strength of this team is in the freshmen and sophomores not the "old ladies" like Liz, Carol and me," analyzes Milling.

These underclass swimmers have big shoes to fill. Milling, Landry and Hobbs have earned 19 All-American titles in three years. Milling is listed in Alabama's top ten times in the 50 and 100 freestyle, in the 500 backstroke and is a member of two relays which hold the team record.

All of these performances have come while Milling was plagued with a shoulder injury which occurred in her senior year of high school.

"Anne Marie came to our summer camp between her junior and senior years of high school," said Gambril. "She'd been in a YMCA-type program in Mobile with little year around training and limited facilities to train in. She worked hard and 1978 and won the 100 yard freestyle event at the junior national championships by knocking three and one-half seconds off her best time."

Milling left her native Mobile for the coaching of Jack Barnacastle at the Birmingham Swim League. She spent her senior year living with swimming families and attending Vestavia High School.

"I'd done so well in the camp and so many hopes were set for me that I was really excited about the move," said Milling. "I'd meet new friends and everything would be great."

"I really enjoyed my time in Birmingham, but the injury really depressed me. I had never lifted weights before and I got too enthusiastic and damaged my shoulder."

"By Christmas and throughout that spring semester, I was really emotionally damaged too. Then I came to Alabama and was afraid I'd hurt my shoulder again, so I was very careful. But coach Gambriel was patient and I've been lucky."

"After her freshmen year," says Gambriel, "we decided to train her only once a day and to use her in the 50 yard lengths, because she is very good there. With a little training, she could get by in the 100s and she scored for us on three relays in the national championship as a sophomore."

"But this year she is able to train more and she's already posted a faster time (23.96 seconds) in the early season than in the previous year. Things look good for her now. If she had not been injured or if it had not taken so long to get better, I feel she could have been a great swimmer," concludes Gambriel.

For 1983, Milling's goals have broadened from just helping the team to shooting for an individual event All-American title.

"When I came to college I did not really have any goals, because I was afraid of my shoulder," states Milling. "I just took it on a day-to-day basis and swam for the team. I wanted to do all I could to get the places the team needed."

"I still want to do that, but now that my shoulder is not bothering me, I want to go to nationals and place in an individual event. I want to earn one (All-American title) myself and with my shoulder returning to form it gives me a good chance to do that."

This early childhood education major is getting that chance through hard work on her own, a coach who never gave up on her and an athletic trainer who wanted to help her.

"With the help of Donna Robertson (former Alabama women's trainer) and her assistants, I've built up the strength in my shoulders. She searched all over and found a program from an orthopedic surgeon in Atlanta," says the lanky, 5-11, swimmer.

"My first two years, I worked in her training and weight rooms, now I've transferred to the swimming weight room and have built up my strength. Every doctor I saw, and there were many, wanted me to quit swimming. But our trainers would not give up until they found out what my problem was and how to deal with it while I swam."

Coach Gambriel comments, "There was a place for her on our team, because she's got speed and never gains weight. We know that with little or no training, she can always swim a great 50. She's a great sprinter and we needed one."

"She's been frustrated that she didn't have a shot at reaching her full potential. But she's a big part of the Alabama team, as her being selected as co-captain indicates."

"It's her senior year and her last chance. 'Sometimes I'm sad it's my last year,' said Milling, 'but other times I'm not. After 12 years of swimming, I'm getting kind of tired. But when sitting around, I think of all the things these freshmen have to look forward to and I wish it was my first year instead of my last.'"

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Paul Ott Carruth: **Making A Name For Bama**

by Al Browning

It is doubtful Paul Ott Carruth will make football jersey number 16 as famous as a trio of distinguished players who have starred wearing it, Super Bowl champion quarterbacks Jim Plunkett, Lynn Dawson and Joe Montana. But if he keeps improving at his present pace, fast both figuratively and afoot, he might see the day when sportscasters pronounce his name correctly.

"That'd be nice, a real compliment," says Carruth, who wrestles with some normal anonymity and much name abuse as a University of Alabama junior running back. "My name (properly) pronounced Ca-RUTH) has been butchered all over the country. I've been called Ca-ROTH, CUT-ruff, Caruthers and just about anything else you can imagine. Last year during our season-opening game against LSU (ABC-TV sportscaster) Keith Jackson called me a couple of names, neither of them correct. Also, our team managers stayed in Pennsylvania a day after our victory over Penn State last season, and they said the sportscasters up there never did get my name correct. It's kind of funny, really, but it'd be nice to hear my name pronounced properly from time to time."

In the 1960s, the Beatles had a smash record, Rocky Raccoon, in which they sang about a lady: "Her name was Magill, but she called herself Lil, and everyone knew her as Nancy."

Likewise, he once listed his name as only Carruth, but after almost everybody goofed, he followed the lead of his father—and decided to use his middle name, Ott, which is a safe one.

"A lot of people have asked why I started going by the name Paul Ott Carruth, instead of remaining just Paul Carruth," says Carruth, who started using the middle name at the beginning of this season. "Well, it's because my dad chose to go by Paul Ott after people had so much trouble with his name. He's an

Alabama junior Paul Ott Carruth is a vital ingredient in the Alabama attack. The Crimson Tide offense and coaches have learned to rely on the running skills of Carruth.

Southeast Spectrum Photo

entertainer, a musician, and the name Carruth caused him all sorts of identity problems."

Also, Paul Ott Carruth Sr. suffered from damaged pride.

"My recording people in Nashville suggested that I drop Carruth from my professional name," says Paul Ott Carruth Sr., who has had a couple of country and western hit records, "Old Blue" (a coon-dog) and "Salute to the Duke" (about John Wayne). "I was happy to do it, because, like Paul, I was being called everything you can imagine. People were having trouble associating me with my records and my promotional work with the National Wildlife Federation.

"I'm really the one who suggested Paul start going by Paul Ott Carruth. I'd constantly run into football fans who'd say, 'I know that boy belongs to you in some way, but how is it? Is he your stepson?' I didn't like that much. I wanted to let people know Paul was my son, so I asked coach Bryant if he could get his name listed as Paul Ott Carruth in the press guide and game programs. Coach Bryant said he'd rather just get Carruth put back on my name, but that he'd take care of it. Doggone, he mentions that it's Paul Ott Carruth every chance he gets now."

All that considered, and still muffed on occasion, suffice it to say Carruth is, well, finally making a name for himself as a Crimson Tide player. During what has been widely accepted as a "dismal" 7-4 season, with a Liberty Bowl game yet to be played against Illinois, he has developed enough flash and consistency to be considered a prime candidate for the role of Moses next season when Alabama will again try to reach a land promised loudly during summer this year.

To a casual observer, his regular season statistics appear as short as Ott—310 yards rushing on 50 attempts—but people who know about Alabama depth at running back, reflected by nine players with at least 10 rushing attempts this season, consider such figures to be as long as the antelope-lide strides Carruth has used to produce them. After all, he does average 6.2 yards per rushing attempt.

Also, Carruth has averaged 10.2 yards on six punt returns and 28.3 yards on three kickoff returns. A perfectionist, who thrives on fundamentals, he played so well against Auburn this season that coach Bryant said, "I think Paul was the best player on the field, both teams considered." He has fumbled the football only three times during his career.

"I learned long ago that the only way I could play a lot in front of the talented people we have at Alabama is by doing

the basics well," Carruth says. "Now I hope to add a little style to it."

Incredibly, all this new-found fame has come his way because of two strange happenings: a disappointing series of injuries that made it imperative he play running back, where he has started off-and-on two seasons, and an adjustment he has made to running on artificial surfaces.

When Carruth signed an Alabama grant-in-aid after becoming Mississippi Private School Player of the Year as a senior at Parklane Academy in McComb, he was scheduled to play quarterback. During preseason practice, however, he suffered a broken hand and, because he could not take center snaps, moved to running back, where he rushed for 244 yards on 64 attempts as a sophomore. During spring practice this year he worked in the defensive secondary, but, because of a hamstring pull, was unable to get enough work to learn a new position. Eight days before a season-opening victory over Georgia Tech, in which he rushed for 56 yards and two touchdowns, he approached coach Bryant about moving back to running back.

"I went to Memorial Coliseum to see coach Bryant, and as I was walking down the hallway leading to his office, he stuck his head out of his office door and said, 'Pablo, I'd like to see you, if you've got a few minutes.' I went into his office, and he said, 'Paul, you just don't look comfortable in the defensive secondary. I've been thinking about moving you back to running back.' I told him that was why I was at his office, that I was gonna ask him if I could move back to offense.

"I felt like I had come home after a long trip that first day I worked again at running back. I'm really comfortable there now, because I think I've finally learned what it takes to be a winner at the college level. I tell you, it's a lot different from high school, because defensive people are fast and they come after you, instead of waiting for you to run toward them. Yeah, I've wondered at times what it might have been like being the quarterback at Alabama, but I realized as a freshman that my best shot at playing time quickly was at running back.

"Running back is my spot now, I don't want to make any more moves. I don't want to play another position. I just want to get better every day, so I can help our team get things turned back in the right direction. I'm comfortable now, and much more confident than I've ever been. I'm beginning to feel a lot like I did in high school, when so many good things happened to me."

Yes, but from the time he started playing football as a fourth-grade student in a Jackson, Mississippi pee-wee league until he arrived at Alabama, Carruth did his galloping on sod, not nylon grass. And only recently has he become accustomed to using his speed—recording star Charley Pride, who is a friend of his father, once watched him in a track meet and called him, "The fastest white kid in the world"—and his agility on various artificial surfaces.

"I know that sounds strange, but I've always turned my feet a funny way when making cuts while running the ball," says Carruth, who has a picture filed in his dorm room to show what he means. "I'd slip a lot on artificial surfaces, and that slowed me down considerably as a freshman and a sophomore. It seemed like I was always taking an extra step when trying to run upfield. Finally, I've overcome that."

Such changes in technique have made a fast player faster, and losing 10 pounds last summer, to 205 on a 6-foot-1 frame, has served him well in that regard.

But people in Mississippi have always thought Carruth made his fastest move when signing an Alabama grant-in-aid. A lot of schools recruited him, the plot thickening considerably after he rushed for 257 yards and five touchdowns in a private school game as a senior, the night his beautiful sister, Carla, an Alabama junior, served as homecoming queen. It has been reported that he was going to Ole Miss before Alabama and Tennessee joined in the chase for his services, but his much-publicized recruitment runs a little deeper and a lot darker than that.

"I always imagined I'd play at Ole Miss and become another Archie Manning," says Carruth. "He was my idol. I used to play behind our house and pretend I was Archie. And I loved the Rebels. But when it came time to make a decision about where to go to school, Alabama was far ahead of everybody else. I made a great decision, because there's something magic about being a part of the Alabama program. There's so much tradition here. It just grabs you.

"I also considered Tennessee, because I thought I might be able to go there and play quarterback as a freshman. And I attended a football camp and became a close friend to Joe Cozart, who plays defensive halfback for them. He and I talked about going to UT and being roommates.

"But when all was said and done, there was no place for me except Alabama. And I still think there's no place like Alabama."

Carruth never has talked much of LSU—in fact, the quiet young man never



Paul Ott Carruth has changed his football duties from that of a talented high school quarterback to those of a dynamic runningback. However, when the play calls from it Carruth is ready to fire from his new position.

Southeast Spectrum Photo

has talked much at all about anything—but the Bengal Tigers had an excellent opportunity to sign him to a grant-and-aid until fate intervened.

"Nobody has made much of it, certainly not Paul, but he really liked LSU," says Paul Ott Carruth Sr. "In fact, Bo Rein (the LSU coach for a short time before he was killed in a plane crash) was scheduled to have breakfast at our house the morning after his tragic accident. He was going to Baton Rouge for the night, then to our house (in Summit, Mississippi) the next morning. That really shook up Paul. He really got shaky, depressed, and I think that's when he decided for sure that Alabama was for him.

"The thing that really put Paul over the hump, however, was a visit from coach Bryant. I knew that, and so did (coach) Steve Sloan at Ole Miss. After hearing that coach Bryant was gonna visit Paul, coach Sloan told me, 'Well, that's it for us. I was there. I know what it's like.'

"My wife (Alberta) and I never did suggest a school for Paul, but we really wanted him to go to Alabama. He was worried about me, of all people, because

he knew his decision to go to Alabama would cause us problems professionally in Mississippi and Tennessee. Unfortunately, he was right about that, but I told him not to worry, and all that stuff would work out in time. That has happened.

"I'm delighted Paul is at Alabama. I'm proud. My daughter is there, too, and I have another football star on the way (11-year-old Bert). I'm gonna be Alabama's top salesman when it comes time for Bert to decide on a school.

"Also, let me tell you something about coach Bryant and the other people at Alabama. My wife has cancer, as many people know, and he has been supportive of our family since we received that news. In fact, he called and fussed at me when he heard about that, because I didn't call and tell him about it. And he asked me if our family had (medical) insurance. That man amazes me. His greatness is mirrored on the field, but he's quite a man off the field, too. He has asked about my wife every time I've seen him this season, even when Tennessee fans were jeering at him after our loss to them at Knoxville.

"We've adopted Alabama now. That's

our school, and the people over there have been incredibly nice to us."

Alabama, meanwhile, has opened its arms to a wonderful family, one in which the oldest son is nothing like his guitar-picking father, but one in which the youngest son is a lot like his football-carrying brother.

"Yeah, I tried several times to get Paul to pick up a guitar and sing when he was young," says Paul Carruth Sr., "but all that boy wanted to do was play football. Oh, he'd pick and sing a little for me—and, boy, can he sing—but he never would do it in front of a crowd. Also, I'm an outdoorsman. I love to hunt and fish, spend a lot of time around wildlife, but Paul never has been much for that. The first time he went deer hunting, he bagged a big ol' buck, then said, 'Dad, is that all it is to hunting?' He hasn't gone back to the woods.

"Bert, meanwhile, is an idolizing little brother. He tells Paul that he's gonna break all of his rushing records from high school, and Paul is quick to tell Bert just to be himself. Bert is a quarterback, and he idolizes Walter Lewis, too. He's always doing all the little moves that make Walter such a great quarterback."

It is interesting that Carruth dates an Alabama coed, Lindsey Bowers, who is a star quarterback on a female football team that will play an exhibition game at the Sugar Bowl this year. He will run in the Liberty Bowl, while wanting to be in the Sugar Bowl for reasons other than love, then will go to New Orleans to watch her in action.

Such a predicament drives home a lesson already painfully learned.

"We haven't had much luck this season," says Carruth. "It looks like all the glory years have caught up on us, because not many breaks have come our way. But I expect that to change next year. We'll do a lot better next year than a lot of people will expect us to. We've got a bunch of juniors this year who really want to get the program back on solid footing.

"And we might take a different approach, such as taking games one at a time. We've been too worked up about championships around here for the last few years, since being number one in 1978 and 1979, and now we're gonna concentrate only on the week at hand. If we win all of our games, well, all the championships will take care of themselves.

"I'll be a senior next season. I'm looking forward to giving something back to Alabama, which has been so good to me for three years. I'm looking forward to helping us regain our proper place at the national level."

Prep Prospects:

Out-Of-State Linemen

by Kirk McNair

Although Alabama has relied primarily on home-grown talent for football success over the years, the finest Alabama teams have always included top players from other states, particularly the surrounding states of the Southeast. Florida and Georgia have been the state providing the greatest quantity of prep football players for the past few years and this year will not be an exception. However, as always, there are also quality athletes in Mississippi, Tennessee and Louisiana.

Here is a look at some of the top linemen in the Southeast, although certainly not all of the linemen who are considered prospects by Alabama and other schools. By the same token, the Tide almost certainly is not recruiting all of these. These are the out-of-state linemen who have been listed in various publications as the top prospects. The only significance to the listing is alphabetical by states.

FLORIDA

Jamel Agemy, 6-1, 215, is a linebacker at South Broward in Hollywood who is generally regarded as among the top ten linebackers-defensive ends in Florida. He bench presses over 350.

Tshombe Coffey, 6-4, 250, is a two-way tackle at Tallahassee Leon, a top ten offensive tackle, and he lists Ken Stabler as his favorite pro player, Walter Lewis as his favorite collegian.

Craig Epps, 6-4, 205, is a top ten defensive lineman at Miami Beach, who runs a 4.7 40 and whose top game saw him make 12 tackles, including four sacks, and cause two fumbles.

Jim Herndon, 6-3, 235, is an offensive tackle at Miami Lakes in Hialeah. He's a two-year starter and team captain.



George Mira Jr.

Alonzo Highsmith, 6-2, 210, is a linebacker at Miami Columbus and is considered by some so-called experts to be the top football player in Florida. His father was a college (Florida A&M) and pro star.

Sherman Johnson, 6-4, 210, is a tight end at Pensacola Woodham and is a top ten receiver. He's a three-year starter, two-year all-star.

Tim Johnson, 6-2, 245, is a defensive tackle at Sarasota. He runs a 4.7 40 and is considered perhaps the most dominating defensive lineman in the state.

Walter Johnson, 6-3, 210, is a tight end and linebacker at Pahokee in Palm Beach. He has the speed to play in the secondary. He's on all Florida "top" lists.

Fred Jones, 6-4, 225, is a tight end-linebacker for South Miami who runs a 4.6 40. His cousin, Neal Colzie, plays for Tampa Bay. He's also a top ten performer as a linebacker.

Alan King, 6-4, 260, is a defensive tackle at Sarasota Riverview who was not mentioned on any pre-season lists. However, he works daily against one of Florida's best, offensive tackle teammate Glen Mogle, and has responded to the challenge.

Pablo Lopez, 6-6, 255, is an offensive tackle at South Miami whose outstanding grades match his size, strength and technique. He's considered one of the very best in Florida.

George Mira Jr., 6-2, 218, is a linebacker-defensive end at Miami Palmetto. He's the son of the former Miami and pro quarterback, but he's being recruited because of games like the one in which he turned in an interception for a touchdown, 12 tackles (including four sacks) and a blocked field goal, not his name.

Glenn Mogle, 6-8, 265, is an offensive tackle at Sarasota Riverview who runs a 4.9 40. He's a transplanted Ohioan but reportedly plans to stay in the South. He once graded 95 percent in a game.

Brad Paddock, 6-5, 248, is a top-tenner as a defensive tackle, although he also plays offense at South Plantation and has received all-star mention for offensive play.

Terry Warren, 6-3, 215, is a linebacker at Tallahassee Leon. He's the brother of former Florida State star Scott (who is now in medical school at Florida). He holds a school record of four fumble recoveries in a game. He placed fifth in the shot in last year's state track meet.

Kelly Ziegler, 6-1, 215, is a linebacker at Miami Palmetto and a top-tenner at his position. He was an all-star as a junior.

Jeff Zimmerman, 6-4½, 280, is an of-



Stacy Searels

defensive tackle at Orlando Evans who also sees occasional defensive duty. His favorite pro player is John Hannah. He graded 88 percent or above in all games this year after an all-star junior season.

GEORGIA

John Abram, 6-3, 235, is an offensive tackle at Lithonia who was a 6-2, 195-pounder as a junior. In addition to being an outstanding blocker, he is a top student. His father played at Georgia.

George Bess, 6-4, 220, is a tight end and defensive end at Washington County in Sandersville. He runs a 4.9 40 and has the strength to play as a down lineman.

Steve Boswell, 6-1, 210, is a linebacker at Warner Robins. He was Lineman of the Year as a junior as he led his team to the state championship and one publication calls him the nation's number two prospect. He was hampered by injuries as a senior.

Larry Brown, 6-3, 230, is a two-way tackle for Atlanta Shamrock who is noted primarily for his defensive play because of his 4.8 speed. He is also a good student.

Bryan Carlisle, 6-2, 230, is a two-way tackle for Atlanta Lakeside and also defending state wrestling champion. His favorite pro player is John Hannah.

Russ Carreker, 6-2, 215, is a tight end-linebacker for Southland Academy in Americus whose sister, Vicki, played basketball at Troy State. He runs a 4.65 and anchored the state championship sprint relay team as a soph.

Billy Cato, 6-3, 250, is a two-way tackle at Augusta Butler who has been a four-year starter and his team's most valuable player the past two years.

Ron Coker, 6-5, 230, is an offensive tackle at Smyrna Campbell. He runs a 4.9 40. He's listed among Georgia's top 30 players and a top ten man as an offensive lineman.

Kennedy Cooper, 6-2, 240, is a defensive tackle at Valdosta who is particularly noted for his agility and hitting ability. He runs a 5.0.

Mark DeFoor, 6-2½, 195 is a defensive end at Gainesville. His father played baseball and basketball at Georgia State, but several relatives attend Alabama.

Greg Farms, 6-4, 245, is a two-way tackle for Warner Robins. He has 5.0 speed and is expected to be a defensive tackle in college.

Eric Floyd, 6-5, 248, is a defensive tackle at West Rome. John Hannah is his favorite pro. He's also a top basketball and track (shot put, discus) performer.

Henry Harris, 6-1, 240 is a linebacker at Decatur Columbia and is regarded by many as the nation's best prep linebacker. He is a high school All-America who runs a 4.65 40.

Jimmy Holton, 6-2, 265, is a two-way tackle at Bainbridge who is considered by some to be Georgia's top interior line prospect. He can bench press 470.

Brad Litke, 6-3, 195, is a defensive end at Lilburn Berkmar who has won area honors for two years. He had two safeties in a single game.

Jimmy Liverpool, 6-1, 220, is a linebacker for Atlanta Roosevelt who earned all-city and all-state mention as a junior. He also plays fullback on offense. His brother plays at Florida A&M.

Bob Long, 6-4, 235, is a defensive tackle at Smyrna Campbell who is noted for his strength and lateral quickness. He is a good student.

Eugene Luke, 6-1, 220, is a two-way tackle at Washington Wilkes. He runs a 4.8 and is considered primarily for his defensive play. He also plays baseball.

David McCluskey, 6-23, 215, is a linebacker at West Rome who may be better known as an all-state fullback, but who is listed on most lists as a defensive prospect. He's had three consecutive 1,000-yard rushing seasons and runs a 4.6 40.

Rod Saddler, 6-6, 235, is a tight end-defensive end at Decatur Columbia. His cousin is Clark Gaines of the New York Jets. Rod was formerly a guard and is considered an outstanding blocker.

Stacy Searels, 6-5, 245, is a defensive tackle at Trion who also sees duty on offense at center. He was unlimited weight wrestling champion as a junior, runner-up as a soph, and also plays baseball.

Kirby Stewart, 6-2, 220, is a linebacker at Colquitt County in Moultrie. He runs a 4.8 40 and is considered a good enough athlete to play several positions.

William Tang, 6-5, 265, is a two-way tackle at Douglas County in Montezuma. He has 5.2 speed and is considered primarily as an offensive tackle.

Doug Taylor, 6-6½, 230, is a defensive tackle at Central Gwinnett in



Doug Taylor

Lawrenceville who moved to Georgia from Pennsylvania prior to the season. He runs a 4.85 and is also a wrestler and shot put and discus man.

Mike Truitt, 6-2, 245, is a two-way lineman at Atlanta Chamblee was not frequently mentioned in pre-season reports, but by the end of the year was being noted both offensively and defensively.

Darryl White, 6-1, 229, is a defensive tackle at Paulding County in Dallas. He is a three-year starter. Darryl was born in Alabama.

Gerald Williams, 6-5, 270, is a two-way tackle at Washington County in Sandersville. He runs a 5.2 40 and has tremendous strength and is probably ticketed for offense.

KENTUCKY

Mark Collingsworth, 6-3, 245, is an offensive guard at Louisville DeSales. He's a three-year starter in one of the state's top programs.

Scott Endris, 6-1, 204, is a linebacker at Louisville DeSales. He was his team's leading tackler as a junior, second in tackles as a senior.

Byron Ingram, 6-2, 240, is an offensive lineman at Lexington Henry Clay. A two-time all-stater, he has played center, guard and tackle. He runs a 4.9 40.

Steve Jewell, 5-11, 223, is a linebacker at Corbin. He's a four-year starter (although at two different schools), top student and son of a football coach.

David Payton, 6-3, 185, is a defensive end at Ft. Campbell and also sees duty at tight end. He was in on 87 tackles and caught 12 passes for 241 yards and one touchdown.

Jerry Reese, 6-4, 245, is a defensive tackle at Christian County in Hopkinsville and the best-known prepper in the state this year. He runs a 4.75 50 and was state heavy power lifting champion last year. He has only played two years of football. His brother was a basketball player at Western Kentucky.

Todd Schulte, 6-2, 205, is a linebacker



Darren Malbrough

at Covington Catholic. Among his 99 tackles this year were 10 sacks and he turned in four interceptions. He also caught seven passes for 171 yards as a tight end. His brother Tim is a prospect as a defensive back.

Tony Sergent, 6-1, 223, is a linebacker at Whitesburg. He averaged 14 tackles per game. He also saw duty as a running back and had over 1,300 yards. He's a good student.

Larry Smith, 6-2½, 225, is a linebacker at Washington County in Springfield. He was in on almost 200 tackles as a senior and intercepted four passes. He also played fullback, rushing for over 1,500 yards and 20 touchdowns, and was his team's placekicker.

Mark Switzer, 6-3½, 215, is a linebacker for Newport, but he's played both down and outside line spots on defense and every position but center, quarterback and tailback on offense.

Chris Thieneman, 6-5, 205, is a defensive end at Louisville Bishop David. He's a three-year starter who runs a 4.8 40 and is a top student.

LOUISIANA

Claude Barnes, 6-5, 220, is tight end at Donaldsonville. He runs a 4.7 40 and is a top twenty prospect in the state.

Michael Brooks, 6-3, 220, is a defensive end at Ruston and a two-year all-state performer and has only played two years of high school football. He runs a 4.7 40.

Tobby Caston, 6-2, 210, is a linebacker at Neville in Monroe.

Tommy Clapp, 6-4, 245, is a two-way tackle at New Orleans Brother Martin. He has attended football camps at LSU. He runs a 5.0 40.

Darryl Colona, 6-4, 240, is a two-way tackle at Hammond who has reportedly committed to LSU. He's expected to be an offensive lineman in college.

Gary Cunningham, 6-2, 208, is a linebacker at Covington St. Paul's who was not listed among prospects in pre-season. He also plays fullback on offense.

Stanley Hall, 6-5, 225, is a defensive



Todd Irvin

tackle at Woodland. He was all-state last year, but in the state's small schools' classification.

John Hazard, 6-4, 270, is a defensive tackle at New Orleans Jesuit. Nationally, he's Louisiana's best-known prospect this year. He runs a 5.0 40 and is a top student. He can also play offense.

Bob Hearn, 6-3, 230 is an offensive tackle at Ruston who is overshadowed by Brooks. He's also an excellent student.

Chet Hebert, 6-6, 240, is a defensive end at New Orleans Archbishop Shaw. He averaged almost two sacks per game. He also plays baseball.

Jorge Henriquez, 6-3, 235, is a two-way tackle at New Orleans Brother Martin who is over-shadowed by Clapp. However, he was not on pre-season lists and may not have been noticed had it not been for the attention his teammate was getting.

Anthony Hudson, 6-3, 240 defensive lineman at Mansfield. His good speed and aggressiveness are his strong suits.

Mike Johnson, 6-0, 190, is a linebacker at Istrouma. He also sees duty at fullback on offense.

Walter Johnson, 6-0, 200, is a linebacker and noseguard at Ferriday. He has good quickness and is aggressive.

William Johnson, 6-4, 205, is a defensive end at Neville in Monroe. He was not listed on most pre-season prospect lists, but is considered either end or linebacker material.

Brian Kinchen, 6-2, 210, is a linebacker at University in Baton Rouge. His father, Gus, was an LSU back some 20 years ago. He runs a 4.8 40 and is a two-time all-stater in the small schools' classification.

Darren Malbrough, 6-2, 220, is a linebacker from New Orleans John Curtis, which gave LSU linebackers Scott Bailey and Gregg Dubroc. Darren is a three-year starter and those three played together in 1980. He runs 4.7 40. He was state runner-up in wrestling and is also a track star.



Scott Haire

Sean Smith, 6-5, 235, is an offensive tackle-defensive end at Bogalusa. He's the younger brother of Grambling star Robert "Big Bird" Smith, who is 6-9, 300. Sean is still growing.

Mike Roach, 6-1, 240, is a tight end-linebacker at Chalmette who runs a 4.8 40. He's known primarily for his defense. He's also a baseball pitcher and shot put and javelin man in track.

Troy Wetzel, 6-0, 205, is a linebacker at New Orleans John Curtis, and, as others, over-shadowed by a better-known teammate, Marlborough. His brother, Marty, was a Tulane linebacker.

Joseph Williams, 6-4, 205, is a tight end at Baton Rouge McKinley.

Ernest Wilson, 6-7, 265, is a two-way tackle at Plaquemine, just across the river from Baton Rouge.

Ronnie Yearby, 6-5, 250, is a tackle at Caldwell High in Columbia. He plays both ways and is considered a prospect either offensively or defensively.

MISSISSIPPI

Bradney Blakeney, 6-1, 245, is a defensive end at Jones in Laurel. He runs a 4.9 40.

Willie Brown, 6-2, 260, is a two-way tackle at Jackson Murrah.

Sidney Coleman, 6-2, 200, is a linebacker at Gulfport Central. He runs a 4.7 40.

Todd Irvin, 6-6½, 245, is tight end of offense, a lineman, linebacker and end on defense and also does all the kicking for Aberdeen. He runs a 4.7 40 and is an all-sports star and good student.

Richard Jackson, 6-2, 215, is a linebacker at Moss Point. He runs a 4.7 40.

Maurice May, 6-23, 235, is an offensive guard at Jackson Callaway who also gets some mention as a defensive performer. He runs a 5.1 40.

Eric Redd, 6-3, 210, is an outside linebacker at Pearl. He runs a 4.7 40 and is considered, along with Irvin, the top line-linebacker prospect in the state.

Henry Ringo, 6-2, 240, is a two-way tackle at Warren Central in Vicksburg. He was an all-star playing only one way as a junior, went both ways as a senior. He runs a 5.0 40.

Stan Sims, 6-3, 260, is a guard-linebacker for Heidelberg Academy. He was all-conference and most valuable in both football and basketball last year and also plays baseball. He runs a 5.0 40.

Darryl Wright, 6-7, 260, is a defensive tackle at Indianola Gentry. He runs a 5.2 40. His cousin, Walter, played basketball at Mississippi State.

TENNESSEE

Harold Beane, 6-5, 250, is a defensive tackle at Memphis Hamilton. He runs a 5.1 40.

Nathan Beason, 5-9, 230, is a noseguard at Memphis Collierville who was all-state performer as a junior.

John Bruhin, 6-4, 245, is a two-way tackle at Knoxville Powell. He ran a 4.9 40

before suffering a knee injury that required surgery, but showed no ill effects this season and repeated as an all-star.

Mark Cagle, 6-3½, 222, is a tackle-linebacker for Jefferson County at Dandridge. He's received notice for both offensive and defensive play. He runs a 4.9 40, also wrestles and plays baseball.

Richard Cooper, 6-6, 230, is a two-way tackle at Memphis Melrose who was all-city as a junior.

Stan Davis, 6-2, 204, is tight end and linebacker at Science Hill in Johnson City. He runs a 4.8 40, benches 375 and has a 3.75 grade point average.

Chris Gaines, 6-1, 205, is a defensive end at Nashville DuPont.

Kelly Grant, 6-4, 220, is a defensive end at Soddy-Daisey who was all-state as a junior.

Scott Haire, 6-3½, 224, is a center and defensive end at Morristown West. He was all-conference as a junior and also plays basketball and participates in track. He runs a 4.9 40.

Daryl Holt, 6-3, 230, is a two-way tackle at Gallatin. He comes from a long line of college athletes, including brother Jeff currently at Vanderbilt. He was an all-star as a junior and also plays baseball and basketball.

Bob Jenkins, 6-2, 210, is a linebacker at Knoxville Halls.

Chuck Lanza, 6-2½, 228, is a center-linebacker at Memphis Christian Brothers. His father was a basketball player at St. Francis. He was all-metro as a junior. He also participates in swimming and track.

Wes Moore, 6-2, 245, is a two-way tackle at Knoxville Central. His father played football at Arizona. He was all-area as a junior and also participates in baseball and track. He runs a 4.8 40.

Mark Schaff, 6-3, 220, is a linebacker at Elizabethton.

Terrence Turnage, 6-6, 222, is a defensive end at Memphis Northside. He is also considered a top basketball prospect. He runs a 4.9 40.

Out Of The Southeast Prospects

Alabama's out-of-state recruiting includes some work out of the states comprising the Southeastern Conference. Here are some whose names have been mentioned by various publications in connection with Bama:

Arkadelphia, Arkansas has a pair of offensive tackles. **Joel Porter**, 6-4, 240, is a four-year starter and two-time prep All-America and was district shot put champion twice. He runs a 4.8 40. **Doug Rice**, 6-3½, 250, was all-district and has been player of the week. He runs a 4.85 40. Both are top students.

Mike McGann, 6-4, 240, is an offensive tackle at Joliet, Illinois, Catholic. His father played basketball at Notre Dame. He was a pre-season All-America. He runs a 4.9 40.

Gregg Johns, 6-3, 230, is a two-way lineman at Calvert Hall in Baltimore, Maryland. He runs a 4.8 40 and was all-metro as a junior.

Gary Lavoie, 6-3, 213, is a tight end-defensive end at Salem, Massachusetts. He runs a 4.8 40.

Jeff Stump, 6-3, 250, is a two-way tackle at Waverly in Lansing, Michigan. His father, Jim, pitched for the Detroit Tigers. He's a prep All-America who runs a 4.9 40. He's also a top wrestler.

New Jersey has a number of top prospects.

Among them are **Dan Pantale**, 6-3, 233, a two-way tackle at Dumont who has been noted particularly for his defense. He runs a 5.0 40. **Danny Stubbs**, 6-5, 225, is a tight end and defensive end at Red Bank. He runs a 4.7 40 and is also a top basketball player. **Dan Zakashefski**, 6-3, 220, is a two-way tackle and linebacker at Middlesex. He runs a 5.0 40 and also plays baseball.

In New York, **John Dominic**, 6-4, 220, is a two-way tackle at Rome Free Academy who has been all-state three years as a defender. He runs a 4.7 40 and also participates in baseball, track and hockey; and **Ray Worhacz**, 6-2, 245, is a two-way lineman at Smithtown West. His father, Bob, played at Dayton and with the Philadelphia Eagles. He runs a 4.8 40 and also participates in track.

Sandy Kea, 6-3, 250, is an offensive guard-defensive tackle at Clinton, North Carolina. He runs a 4.9 40 and also plays basketball and is on the track team. **John Phillips**, 6-5, 225, is a defensive tackle and linebacker at Spruce Pine.

Brad Myers, 6-4, 235, is a two-way tackle at Miamisburg, Ohio. He also does his team's placekicking. He runs a 5.1 40 and also plays baseball.

In Pennsylvania, **John Sorna**, 6-6, 265, is a two-way tackle at Elizabeth Forward.

he runs a 5.0 40 and also wrestles; and **Chuck Williams**, 6-6, 235, is a defensive tackle from Freedom. He runs a 4.6 40 and is a prep All-America.

From Texas is **Tim Hendrix**, 6-6, 215, a tight end-linebacker at DeSoto. His brother played at Baylor and North Texas State. He runs a 4.71 40 and is also a high hurdler. **Bill Walker**, 6-1, 220, is an offensive guard and linebacker at Richardson in Dallas. His father, Bill, and uncle, Robert Barnes, played baseball at Bama and he was born in Alabama. He was his team's player of the week in all but two games as a senior. He runs a 5.1 40 and also plays baseball.

Virginia boasts one of the nation's best-known preppers in **Robert Banks**, 6-4½, 235, a two-way tackle at Hampton, where former Bama center Dwight Stephenson and current Tide linebacker Desmond Holloman played. He was all-state both offensively and defensively the past two years and a prep All-America. He runs a 4.8 40. **Mike Rice**, 6-3, 260, is an offensive tackle at North Stafford. His brother plays at VMI. He runs a 5.0 40 and also participates in wrestling and track. **Chuck Watson**, 6-2, 204, is an offensive tackle-linebacker at Princess Anne in Virginia Beach. He's earned an unusual five letters in both football and track (shot put and discus). He runs a 4.8 40.

History of Alabama Athletics:

Past Liberty Bowls

by Al Browning

Give me LIBERTY or give me death.

University of Alabama football, in possession of its proud history, did not speak those words made famous by Patrick Henry when contemplating its bowl game plans for this season, but in a major sort of way they do seem appropriate as the Crimson Tide moves toward a December 29 game at Memphis against Illinois.

When bowl game pairings were made in mid-November, Alabama had what amounted to two alternatives. The Liberty Bowl was the choice, of course, with the Crimson Tide declining the Hall of Fame Bowl, and, let it not be forgotten, the invitation and subsequent acceptance enables Alabama to extend a couple of noteworthy national records.

At the end of a season of broken streaks, Alabama will play in its 36th bowl game, more than any other school in history, and will make its 24th consecutive holiday season appearance, which constitutes another national record.

And adding enlightenment to the upcoming Alabama appearance in the Liberty Bowl is the fact the Crimson Tide started its present streak of participation in post-regular season events in the first game carrying that name. In the 1959 Liberty Bowl, Alabama lost to Penn State 0-7 on a windy, snowy afternoon at Franklin Field in Philadelphia.

A member of that Crimson Tide team was Billy Richardson, who two years later starred as a halfback on a national championship team. He recalls the rigors associated with playing under Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant in his first season at Alabama, 1958, and, heaven knows, he recalls the Liberty Bowl appearance, which was the first of three the Crimson Tide has made in the extravaganza.

"That bowl game was a fiasco," said Richardson. "We had hoped for a better bowl bid (with a 7-1-2 record) and when the Liberty Bowl invitation came, we were not too excited about it.

"But Coach Bryant called a meeting and started talking about how fine a bowl it was and all the nice gifts we would receive. Also, he said the school had arranged a trip to New York for a week after the game. After talking it over with him, we accepted the invitation.

"We rode a train to Philadelphia for the game and it was the worst experience any of us had ever had. It must have taken us 20 hours, and when we got there nobody was at the station to greet us. We had expected a big crowd, but nobody up there even knew there was a football game scheduled.

"And the game, whew! It was about 25 degrees and the wind was blowing about 40 miles per hour. Nothing much was fun about it, and, of course, Penn State beat us, which made it worse."

Penn State scored its winning touchdown, the only one scored in the game, on the final play of the first half. Coach Rip Engel put a fake field goal into the Nittany Lions' game plan two days before the opening kickoff, and his team ran it to perfection to secure its margin of victory.

It was at halftime that day that Bryant displayed his fabled savvy when addressing his team.

"He raised hell," said Richardson. "He was boiling mad."

The coach was the only person warm, at least figuratively, because he has often told how his players gathered around a pot-bellied stove at halftime that day in an effort to break the numbness left by the cold outside.

Alabama was obviously a deserving bowl game invitee in 1959. The Crimson Tide had wins over Houston, Chatta-

nooga, Mississippi State, Tulane, Georgia Tech, Memphis State and Auburn, and ties with Vanderbilt and Tennessee, after losing to Southeastern Conference champion Georgia on opening day. But there was a serious snag in the arrangement Alabama finally stuck with the Liberty Bowl, because Penn State had black players on its roster.

"I got permission from the (school) administration and from Governor John Patterson to make sure there would be no trouble in us accepting the invitation," said Bryant. "The governor, as it worked out, was highly in favor of us playing in the game. In fact, he went to Philadelphia with us."

The appearance by Alabama in the 1959 Liberty Bowl game capped a quick growing process for the Crimson Tide program under the leadership of Bryant. While maturity came fast, it was painful.

"I guess everybody on our team felt like walking off at one time or another," said Richardson, who weighed only 168 pounds as a sophomore in 1959. "The first year was dreadful. The second year under Coach Bryant was only a little better. It was not uncommon for me to lose 14 or 15 pounds during a practice.

"I was still in high school in 1958, so I was not there for the first spring training under Coach Bryant. But I remember it well, because the news people were very much aware of what was happening in Tuscaloosa. They showed films of practice almost daily. I remember watching them and getting scared just thinking about showing up for fall practice.

"When we freshmen did report for practice, the varsity had already been working out for a week. I remember looking out on the practice field that first day on campus and noticing that only 30 or so players were still on the team. Many of the returnees had already quit and gone home."



Barry Krauss (right) was Most Valuable Player and coach Bryant was most Sensibly Dressed as Alabama defeated UCLA 36-6 in the Tide's last appearance in Memphis in 1976. The game was played in arctic conditions.

University of Alabama Photo

Such was the price paid for a ball game tradition that will, after December 29, boast of 10 appearances in the Sugar Bowl with seven wins, seven appearances in the Orange Bowl with four wins, six appearances in the Rose Bowl with four wins and one tie, six appearances in the Cotton Bowl with two wins, four appearances in the Liberty Bowl, with possibly, two wins, two appearances in the Astro-Bluebonnet Bowl with two ties, and one appearance in the Gator Bowl without any kind of success.

Since the first one, Liberty Bowl games have become reprieves of sort for Alabama teams that failed to qualify for appearances in the four major bowl games. In 1969, a 6-4 Crimson Tide team lost to Colorado 33-47 in the Liberty Bowl. In 1976, an 8-3 Alabama team defeated UCLA 36-6 in the Liberty Bowl. This year, a good, but not great, Crimson Tide team will play Illinois, 7-4, for the first time in history in the Liberty Bowl.

The 1969 Liberty Bowl, although painful for Alabama loyalists, was a great spectator game. Scoreboard operators were probably as tired as offensive players after the contest ended with a clear winner.

Said Kyle Griffin, a Memphis sports writer: "Colorado, a Yankee Doodle Dandy come to town, showered Memorial Stadium with football fireworks yesterday afternoon and burned gutty little Alabama, 47-33, in the 11th Liberty Bowl game. A record 50,042 fans cheered the windy but radiant football day into the sunset. It was a great game to watch."

Colorado players added insult to injury after the game. They went to one end of the playing field and conducted a workout.

"That really embarrassed me," said Bryant.

Meanwhile, a Crimson Tide player, all-star Alvin Samples, should have been embarrassed at a post-game banquet, but was not. He played linebacker for Alabama that day, but was awarded the offensive player of the game award, the result, we must assume, of his proven abilities as a guard during his career.

"It was a complete surprise," said Samples. "I was stunned. Receiving the offensive award when I played defense in that game was startling. I felt funny when they called my name at the banquet."

"But I was also proud. I still am. They meant to give it to me."

Disheartened by the poor season Alabama had, Bryant announced before the Liberty Bowl that he was thinking about resigning as coach. Dr. David Mathews, the school president, put a halt to such thinking by making a vote-of-confidence speech on behalf of the coach.

There was another five-loss season in 1970, but it was followed by a decade of winning by Alabama that established a national record for success that will probably never be matched.

If there was a "lull" in Crimson Tide dominance during the 1970s, it came in 1976, when Alabama lost three games before its resounding victory over UCLA in the Liberty Bowl. That victory was secured after several UCLA players voiced discontent about being in Memphis and playing a team as "unspectacular as the Crimson Tide."

The most valuable player in that game was Alabama linebacker Barry Krauss.

"I was totally psyched at kickoff," said Krauss, who made 18 tackles and returned an intercepted pass for a touchdown. "I could have run through a brick wall and not felt it."

"It was bitter cold that night, as cold as I could remember. My fingers were numb, but I never thought about the weather during the game. All I thought about was beating the devil out of UCLA."

"They (UCLA players) thought we were just a bunch of old country boys from Alabama, and we wanted to show them we knew something about football. I think we proved our point rather well."

Krauss recalled how UCLA players walked around Memphis. "They were cocky, and they thought they could show up and beat us." But the thing he recalled the most was a stunning fireworks display just before kickoff.

"Wow! That fireworks show was something," Krauss said. "It jacked me up higher than the sky. I was thinking how great it would be to see something like that before every game."

After the game, Alabama quarterback Jeff Rutledge, a sophomore, offered words that were almost prophetic: "The Liberty Bowl tonight, the national title next year."

In 1977, Alabama was jumped by Notre Dame in final national polls. But in both 1978 and 1979, the Crimson Tide finished its seasons as national champion.

Perhaps the Liberty Bowl of 1982 will serve as a similar launching pad to restored greatness at Alabama, which already reigns as the greatest name in bowl game history.

BAMA SCORECARD

Lights, Action . . .

Bear.

If you have not forgotten, that is more than a nickname coach Bryant has had since he wrestled one in the Lyric Theater in Fordyce, Arkansas. It is also the title of a much-anticipated movie about his life, the same project that was supposed to start its filming in October or early November.

Well, according to Mae Martin Tyson, daughter of the coach and principal liaison between his family and producer Larry Spangler, the movie is still scheduled to be released next fall. But, says Mrs. Tyson, the Bryant family has only recently been given the script for reviewing.

Mary Harmon Tyson, granddaughter of the coach and skilled in playwriting, says "the script flows well." It starts, says Mrs. Tyson, with the coach as a child in Moro Bottom, Arkansas, near Fordyce.

Spangler had a film crew at the Alabama-Auburn football game earlier this month to shoot footage to be used in the movie. Since Alabama wore white jerseys last season against Auburn, which it beat to give coach Bryant his record 315th victory, no game footage will be used in the movie. Also, coach Bryant was not captured by cameras, because the lead actor will portray him in full, meaning he will not be shown in person on the sideline during a game.

The lead actor? Well, Burt Lancaster, James Garner and James Arness appear to be the top candidates, but that has not been decided. The actor selected by Spangler and Bryant family members will read the script before saying yes or no.

Michael Kane, the scriptwriter, interviewed several Bryant family members, former players and former and present associates before preparing the story. It is doubtful all of them will be included in the movie, although the Bryant family, according to Mrs. Tyson, "would like for everybody who has played for or worked with Papa to be in it."

As expected, the Bryant family has been besieged with requests from people who would like bit parts in the movie. And, the Fletcher Brothers, a singing group from Georgia made up of "real Alabama

supporters" has petitioned Spangler to use several of their songs in the movie.

Mrs. Bryant (Mary Harmon), meanwhile, has a considerable part in the movie, as prepared by Kane, although she has publicly announced that she does not welcome so much acclaim. The actress for her role has not been selected, but as Mrs. Tyson said and many people know, she certainly needs to be an attractive, charming lady.

Transplants

Illinois, the state of this year's Liberty Bowl opponent University of Illinois, has never been a hotbed of Alabama football recruiting and there are no current Tide players from the Land of Lincoln. However, over the years a dozen Illini have earned football letters for Bama, dating back to All-America tackle Jim Ryba of Cicero in 1937. That 1937 Bama team lost only one game, the Rose Bowl to California, 13-0. Current Illinois coach Mike White later coached at California and Bama evened its record against the Bears with a 66-0 thrashing of coach White's team to open the 1973 season.

Other Alabama lettermen from Illinois over the years are:

Ralph Carrigan, center from Oak Park, 1951-53; Bob Cryder, offensive guard from O'Fallon Township, 1975-77; Charles

Eckerly, guard, Oak Park, 1952-54; Elwood Gerber, guard, Napierville, 1940; George Hecht, guard, Chicago Heights, 1940-42; Larry Lauer, center, Wilmette, 1948-50; Ben Orcutt, running back, Arlington Heights, 1981; Eric Schumann, defensive back, Blue Island, 1977; Woody Umphrey, punter, Bourbonnais, 1978-80; Clem Welsh, halfback, Winchester, 1948; and Steve Williams, defensive back, Moline, 1969-71.

Cryder was also an All-America for the Tide and played in Bama's last Liberty Bowl game. He also won the Jacobs Award as the outstanding blocker in the Southeastern Conference.

Williams played in Bama's second Liberty Bowl game and turned in a pass interception.

Ryba and Hecht were Bama stars from Illinois who played in the College All-Star Game, before the discontinuation of that annual Chicago affair.

Carrigan, Cryder and Lauer played in the Senior Bowl, while Eckerly and Lauer played in the Blue-Gray Game.

White In Bowls

Illinois head coach Mike White has a perfect record as a head coach in post season games, including the 1981 Blue-Gray Game in Montgomery. Although this will be the first team he has taken to a bowl game in his nine-year career (1972-77 at California and 1980-82 at Illinois), his teams were victorious in the 1975 East-West Game, the 1976 Hula Bowl Game, and in both the 1975 and 1976 Japan Bowl games, as well as last December's Blue-Gray contest.

SEC Rankings

Statistics are prone to fib.

That is certainly the case when a person looks at Southeastern Conference football stats for the 1982 season. There, a person finds that Alabama, which finished sixth in conference standings with a 3-3 record, finished second in total offense and second in total defense, 11 games considered.

Alabama averaged 421.1 yards per game, less than a yard less than Mississippi State, which finished eighth in



Steve Williams

conference standings. Alabama allowed 307.5 yards per game, second to LSU, which allowed 246.1.

Alabama was second in scoring offense with 28.8 points per game, and was fifth in scoring defense, 18.3. Alabama was second in both rushing offense, 266.8 yards per game, and rushing defense, 134.9. Alabama was seventh in passing offense, 154.3 yards per game, and was sixth in passing defense, 172.5.

Fullback Ricky Moore led Alabama rushers with 600 yards, 54.5 per game, to rank 13th in the conference. Quarterback Walter Lewis was 15th with 572 yards. Lewis was second to Alan Risher of LSU in passing efficiency, completing 102 of 164 attempts for 1,515 yards and nine touchdowns. Lewis ranked third in total offense, 2,087 yards.

Defensive halfback Jeremiah Castille of Alabama had seven interceptions to rank fourth in individual pass defense. Linebacker Eddie Lowe had two interceptions to rank 20th.

Fullback Craig Turner ranked eighth in scoring with 6.5 points per game. 12 touchdowns, while placekicker Peter Kim ranked ninth with 6.0 points per game, 10 field goals and 36 points after touchdown.

Split ends Jesse Bendross and Joey Jones caught 25 passes each to rank 16th among receivers. Jones had three more yards in receptions than Bendross.

Punter Malcolm Simmons finished third among punters with a 43.3-yards average, behind James Colquitt of Tennessee, 46.9, and Jim Arnold of Vanderbilt, 45.8.

Four Alabama players made all-conference first team, offensive tackle Joe Beazley, defensive end Mike Pitts, center Steve Mott and Castille. Making the second team were defensive tackle Jackie Cline and safety Tommy Wilcox, who failed in his bid to become the first Crimson Tide player in history to make all-conference first team four years.

More Football To Play

Six Alabama football players will not play their final games of the season December 29, when the Crimson Tide plays Illinois in the Liberty Bowl. Center Steve Mott, linebackers Eddie Lowe and Robbie Jones, defensive tackle Jackie Cline, defensive halfback Jeremiah Castille and defensive end Mike Pitts, seniors all, are scheduled to play in post-season all-star games.

All of the players will make their professional debuts in the games, then wait and hope they are drafted by National Football League teams.

Mott and Cline will have double duty, playing in the Senior Bowl at Mobile and in the East-West Shrine Game in San Fran-

cisco. Castille and Lowe will join them in the Senior Bowl. Pitts and Jones will play in the Hula Bowl in Honolulu.

Pitts and Castille have been named to All-America teams, including the prestigious one compiled by The Associated Press. Pitts has made several such teams, and he was one of 12 finalists in balloting for the Lombardi Trophy.

Tommy Wilcox, a senior safety, is scheduled to play in at least one all-star game, but may decline the invitation due to an ankle injury that caused him to miss three of the final four regular season games.



All-America Jeremiah Castille



All-America Mike Pitts

All—Star Players

Defensive end Mike Pitts and defensive halfback Jeremiah Castille were the leaders among Alabama football players making all-star teams this season, but they were joined on various teams by safety Tommy Wilcox, defensive tackle Jackie Cline, offensive tackle Joe Beazley, and center Steve Mott.

Pitts earned All-America honors from Football News, Kodak and The Associated Press, being selected first team by all three. He was also first-team All-Southeastern Conference by The AP and United Press International.

Castille joined Pitts on The AP and Kodak All-America Teams. He made The AP and UPI All-SEC Teams.

Wilcox made the Walter Camp All-America Team, and he was named second-team All-SEC by The AP.

Cline and Mott were also second-team All-SEC selections by The AP, and Mott was named as a first-team guard on the UPI All-SEC team. Beazley was named first-team AP.

Memphis Hotel Hotline

The Convention and Visitors Bureau of Memphis and the Memphis Hotel-Motel Association have set up a hotel/motel reservation hotline exclusively for visitors attending this year's Liberty Bowl. The hotline number is (901) 526-1919.

Fall Finishes

The Alabama women's tennis team posted a 7-4 fall record, defeating Miami-Ohio, South Alabama two times, Memphis State, Mississippi State, Tulane and South Florida. Norette Slyn posted the finest individual record as she went 10-1 in singles competition and 8-3 in doubles.

The women golfers best finish this fall was a sixth place at the Lady Tar Heel and their lowest round was a 298 on the initial day of the Taylormade-Memphis State Invitational. Individually, Susan Ladd posted the lowest tournament average 76.1 for all five tournaments. Shelly Babb, who with Ladd are the team's co-captains, had the second lowest average at 77.6 for four tournaments.

NCAA Cuts

The swimming season is young and already six women and two relays have met NCAA qualifying standards. Angelika Knipping made cuts in the 100 and 200-yard breaststroke, Carol Landry in the 100-free, Lisa McClain in the 100 and 400-yard individual medley and Kim Nicholson has qualified in the 50, 100, and 200-yard backstroke. Divers Patricia Bryant and Ellen McGrath both have qualified on the one and three-meter boards. Alabama's 200 and 400-yard medley relay teams have also made the NCAA cut.

First Football Commitment

Lewis Dean of Foley, Alabama became the first high school senior to announce his commitment to play with the Crimson Tide. The 5-10, 180-pound Lewis runs a 4.7 40 and can benchpress 330 pounds. In the past two seasons, the outstanding quarterback has compiled impressive statistics as he amassed 3,217 yards passing and running and tallied 40 touchdowns. He has been all-region twice and all-county twice. Dean will be the first Foley player to sign with the Tide since 1964 when quarterback Kenny Stabler came to Alabama.

Letters To The Editor

Dear 'BAMA:

I carry the Bama flag in "Dawg Country" and it has been a pleasure to do so. Please give me some background on the Bama-Georgia series, particularly as to why it stopped. I know we pick up the Dawgs in 1984.

My wife and I graduated from Bama and we are so proud of The University's academic and athletics programs.

Sid Strickland
Pearson, Georgia

Alabama owns a 31-20-4 record in games with Georgia. The teams have not played since 1977 when Bama took an 18-10 victory in Tuscaloosa. The Southeastern Conference currently has a schedule whereby every team has five traditional opponents it plays each year (in Alabama's case they are Vanderbilt, Tennessee, LSU, Mississippi State and Auburn). Each team then plays one of the other four teams for two years to make up a six-game conference schedule. This year and in 1983 Bama's other game is against Ole Miss. The Tide picks up Georgia in 1984 (or 1 A.H., After Herschel, as the Bulldogs will probably consider it) for a home game and in 1985 at Georgia.

In 1986 and 1987 it is Florida and in 1988 and 1989 it is Kentucky. Meanwhile, Bama will also continue playing Ole Miss, which may or may not count in conference standings.

Alabama would like to play everyone in the conference every year. There is a chance the SEC will increase the number of mandatory conference games in the future. However, there is also a chance the SEC will decide that it is an unfair advantage for Alabama to have an extra league game and decide that Alabama-Ole Miss games after next year are not conference games. The league presidents made that incredible ruling in 1980 and 1981. Bama is the primary reason there is not a round robin SEC schedule. Despite any other reasons you may hear, the main reason it was not put in the last time it was considered, in the 1970s, was because of the way Alabama was dominating the league.

Dear 'BAMA:

What became of Doug Collins, 1979, and Andy Martin, 1980?

Domenick R. Tibaldo
Newark, New Jersey

Collins dropped out of football, but remained at Alabama. Martin transferred to the University of North Alabama.

Editor's Note: In last month's Letters we inadvertently left out the name of one Alabama player seen in the most popular prints of Bama's goalline stand against Penn State in the Sugar Bowl following the 1978 season. E.J. Junior is number 39.

'BAMA has received a number of inquiries over the past month regarding a number of rumors concerning Alabama players and coaches. We have elected not to give credence to these rumors (which surface each year around the Auburn game and recruiting time) by addressing them in print. Suffice it to say that if you hear something from someone who heard about it, it's probably not true.

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Alabama's Winter Sports Schedules

Men's Basketball

97	Marathon Oil Exhibition	84
103	Middle Tennessee State	58
74	Texas Tech	53
	(Birmingham)	
74	Southern Methodist	56
75	@ Penn State	67
Dec. 18	Louisiana Tech	
Dec. 20	Texas Southern	
Dec. 28-29	Winston Tire Classic (Georgetown, Southern Cal, Wisconsin)	
Jan. 3	@ Florida	
Jan. 5	@ Auburn	
Jan. 8	Kentucky	
Jan. 11	Vanderbilt	
Jan. 15	@ Georgia	
Jan. 18	@ Tennessee	
Jan. 22	LSU	
Jan. 24	Mississippi	
Jan. 28	@ UCLA	
Jan. 31	@ Mississippi State	
Feb. 5	@ Kentucky	
Feb. 8	@ Vanderbilt	
Feb. 12	Georgia	
Feb. 14	Tennessee	
Feb. 19	@ LSU	
Feb. 21	@ Mississippi	
Feb. 26	Mississippi State	
March 3	Florida	
March 6	Auburn	
March 9-12	SEC Tournament (Birmingham)	
Marh 17-20	NCAA First Round	
March 24-27	NCAA Regionals	
April 2-4	NCAA Finals (Albuquerque, N.M.)	

Women's Basketball

81	Troy State	60
63	@ Georgia Tech	56
69	@ Memphis State	74
94	@ Georgia State	67
64	Florida State	73
56	Louisiana Tech	83
66	Tulane	58
74	N. Louisiana	67
Dec. 17	Tennessee-Chattanooga	
Jan. 3	North Carolina	
Jan. 5	@ Auburn	
Jan. 9	Western Kentucky	
Jan. 12	South Alabama	
Jan. 14	@ DePaul	
Jan. 16	@ Notre Dame	
Jan. 18	Kentucky	
Jan. 22	Louisiana State	
Jan. 24	Mississippi	
Jan. 26	@ Troy State	
Jan. 29	@ Mississippi State	
Feb. 2	@ South Alabama	
Feb. 9	Auburn	
Feb. 16	@ Florida (Pensacola)	
Feb. 19	@ Louisiana State	
Feb. 21	@ Mississippi	
Feb. 26	Mississippi	
March 3-6	SEC Championship @ Tennessee	

Women's Gymnastics

Jan. 14	Auburn, LSU, Minnesota
Jan. 22	@ Florida
Jan. 27	@ Penn State
Jan. 29	@ West Virginia
Feb. 4-5	Red & White Classic (Alabama, Georgia, Maryland, Nebraska, Ohio State)
Feb. 9	@ Jacksonville State
Feb. 11	North Carolina
Feb. 18-19	SEC Championship @ Florida
Feb. 25	Auburn
March 4	Illinois-Chicago Circle
March 10	Georgia, Missouri
March 25	NCAA Regionals @ Florida
April 8-9	NCAA Nationals @ Utah

Men's Indoor Track

Jan. 15	@ Kodak Invitational (Johnson City, Tenn.)
Jan. 22	@ Mississippi Invitational (Jackson, Miss.)
Jan. 30	@ LSU Invitational (Florida, State, Houston, Texas A&M)
Feb. 5	@ Indiana Invitational
Feb. 12	@ Montgomery Invitational
Feb. 26-27	SEC Championships @ LSU
March 12	NCAA Championships @ Pontiac, Michigan

Women's Swimming

88	@ Indiana	64
86	@ Southern Illinois	53
97	Kansas	51
38	Florida	111
97	S. Carolina	52
Jan. 7-9	@ U.S. International Meet	
Jan. 7	Clemson	
Jan. 14	@ Cincinnati	
Jan. 21	Auburn	
Jan. 28	@ LSU	
Jan. 29	@ Tulane	
Feb. 4	@ Tennessee	
Feb. 11-12	Alabama Invitational	
Feb. 24-26	SEC Championship	
March 17-19	NCAA Championship (Lincoln, Nebraska)	

Men's Swimming

66	@ Indiana	48
63	@ Southern Illinois	50
75	Kansas	37
69	Florida	43
69	S. Carolina	44
Jan. 7-9	@ U.S. International Meet	
Jan. 7	Clemson	
Jan. 14	@ Cincinnati	
Jan. 22	Auburn	
Jan. 28	@ Southern Mississippi (split squad)	
Jan. 28	@ LSU (split squad)	
Jan. 29	@ Tulane	
Feb. 5	@ Tennessee	
Feb. 11-12	Alabama Invitational	
March 3-5	SEC Championship (@ Tennessee)	
March 24-26	NCAA Championship	

Women's Indoor Track

Jan. 22	@ Mississippi Invitational (Jackson, Mississippi)
Jan. 30	@ LSU Invitational (Florida State, Houston, Texas A&M)
Feb. 5	@ Indiana Invitational
Feb. 12	@ Montgomery Invitational
Feb. 26-27	SEC Championships @ LSU
March 12	NCAA Championships @ Pontiac, Michigan

Continued from Page 2

1962 and became "the end," despite the presence of another great one, Dennis Homan. Alabama fans selected Ray Perkins as wide receiver on the Bama Team of the Decade for the 1960s. Although he is barely hanging on to places in the Alabama record book as a receiver (he is sixth in single season receptions with his 33 in 1966 and dropped from 11th to 13th this year behind Joey Jones and Jesse Bendross in single season receiving yards, 490), his clutch catches will never be forgotten by Tide fans.

He has the distinction of having caught touchdown passes in bowl games from three of Alabama's greatest quarterbacks—Joe Namath in the 1965 Orange Bowl, two from Steve Sloan in the 1966 Orange Bowl, and Ken Stabler in the 1967 Sugar Bowl. He played on national championship teams in 1964 and 1965 and the unbeaten-untied-uncrowned team of 1966. The first play of that 1967 Sugar Bowl set the tone for Bama's 34-7 thrashing of Nebraska, a 45-yard pass from Stabler to Perkins. He set an Orange Bowl record in 1966 with 10 first half receptions.

Born in Mount Olive, Mississippi on November 6, 1941, he was an all-around star at Petal High School. Former Tide assistant coach Dude Hennessey signed him to a Bama scholarship following the 1961 season. He missed one year of football at Alabama because of a head injury (although he does not have a steel plate in his head as is commonly reported), then had an outstanding career. He was an All-America in 1966 and also chosen Southeastern Conference Lineman of the Year by both the Birmingham Monday Morning Quarterback Club and the Atlanta Touchdown Club. He was elected co-captain (with Richard Cole) of the 1966 team coach Bryant called "the greatest college team I've ever seen."

He continued as a receiver for a pretty good quarterback when he went to the Baltimore Colts, where Johnny Unitas was throwing passes, and in his five professional seasons played in two National Football League title games and two Super Bowls (losing the famous one to ex-Tide teammate Joe Namath and the Jets). In those five years, before a knee injury ended his playing career, he caught 93 passes for 1,538 yards and 11 touchdowns. Among his better games was catching two touchdown passes in a

26-0 victory over his current team, the Giants.

He retired as a player in 1972 and joined Mississippi State as receivers' coach. A year later he moved into the NFL with the Boston Patriots under Chuck Fairbanks. After four years he moved to San Diego and in 1978 was named offensive coordinator.

In 1979 he became the 11th head coach in the history of the New York Giants. In just three seasons he accomplished what no other Giants' coach had been able to do in the previous 18 years—lead the club into the NFL Playoffs. From a 4-12 record in 1980, when the club was decimated with injuries, he took the Giants to a 9-7 record in 1981, one of the most dramatic turn-arounds in the league. Despite having one of the youngest teams in the NFL (10

rookies or first year men on the active roster and six more on injured reserve), he led the Giants past defending NFC champion Philadelphia before bowing to eventual Super Bowl champion San Francisco. As a rookie head coach his team got off to an 0-5 start, then won six of the next eight games. He was named head coach of the South squad in the annual Senior Bowl following that season.

He is married to the former Carolyn Martin of Winsboro, Texas and they have two sons, Tony, 18 (who plays at Jacksonville State for former Perkins Alabama teammate Jimmy Fuller), and Mike, 15.

Coach Perkins has owned a farm in Tuscaloosa for a number of years.

The rumors of a change in Alabama's coaching situation began after coach



Ray Perkins, who was an All-America end at Alabama in the mid-1960s, follows another ex-Tide end as head coach at Bama. University of Alabama Photo

Bryant's statement of need for changes "starting at the top" following Bama's loss to LSU. Although he later retreated from that stance in a Birmingham speech, on his call-in radio program, and in a television interview the night before the Auburn game; and although Dr. Thomas said that his review of the Alabama football situation did not indicate the need of replacing coach Bryant, the wheels were put in motion. A search committee consisting of Dr. Thomas and five others was formed, the idea being that even if a coach wasn't needed immediately, it was inevitable that one would be needed in the not-too-distant future.

Coach Perkins visited with coach Bryant late in the Tide season and the possibility of the Giants' coach replacing the giant of a coach may or may not have been discussed, but no decision was reached. One stumbling block may have been coach Perkins' pro salary, rumored to be about three times the \$100,000 or so the Alabama head job will pay. However, coach Perkins apparently wanted the Alabama job at the going rate. The final deal was probably struck December 8th when coach Bryant, Dr. Thomas and coach Perkins sat together at the National Football Foundation and Hall of Fame banquet in New York, then visited later that evening. Coach Perkins met with University officials in Birmingham four days before the announcement of the change.

Alabama tried to keep the announcement secret, only a half dozen or so aware that it was coming. The leak came in New York.

Last summer coach Bryant said "when they (the University) want me to step down, or when I feel like it's time, I want somebody else to take it. That could come anytime, depending on how we do. I want it to grow and get better. I don't want it to go downhill."

He also said he was not concerned that the next Bama coach could not live up to what Tide fans have come to expect. "I think the important thing is for the retiring guy to remove himself, to not get in the way. When there have been problems I think it's been because there was some friction or the guy was still around and still thought he knew everything."

Coach Bryant will still be around, but will almost certainly absent himself completely from the field after the Liberty Bowl. What kind of athletics director will he be? The record indicates he will be an active one, particularly in the areas of budgets, fund raising and facilities. Alabama also needs to complete future

football schedules, which have numerous gaps. Coach Bryant has refused to fill those dates because he didn't want to handicap his successor; now he will probably work with coach Perkins to fill those dates. His primary role as an assistant to Dr. Thomas will probably be in loosening alumni pursestrings. Having donated over \$100,000 himself to a scholarship fund, he can go to his fellow alumni as a doer.

Although coach Bryant has benefitted by his 25 years as head football coach at Alabama, he has given far more to The University than anyone else, ever; and probably given more to it than any alumnus at any school has ever given.

His decision to retire as head football coach, while regrettable in many ways, was typically magnanimous. No one would have denied him the privilege of staying on as long as he wished, adding to his incredible record regardless of how slowly. Alabama is one of a handful of col-

lege football powers which could have survived even if it meant a few more mediocre seasons and mediocre recruiting efforts. And his overall record would have far overshadowed any accusations of hanging on too long.

It was his decision that to do such was not fair to The University. Therefore, he sacrificed himself.

Coach Bryant could also have chosen a successor who would not be expected to do well. That would have made his memory as head coach all the more gleaming. Again, he opted for best for Alabama, not best for Paul Bryant.

Coach Bryant has always had a concern for assistant coaches. The future of current Bama assistants cannot be expected to be known for awhile, but it's almost certain that coach Perkins will have the opportunity to mold his own staff; and that staff may include some or all of current Tide assistants.

The Bryant Record

*322 victories, the most in college football history (overall record of 322-85-17), in 38 years

*231-46-9 record in 25 years at Alabama

*Six national championships (1961, 1964, 1965, 1973, 1978, 1979)

*Southeastern Conference record of 159 league victories (137 at Alabama, 22 at Kentucky)

*20 Top Ten finishes at Alabama

*14 Southeastern Conference championships (1950 at Kentucky; 1961, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1981 at Alabama)

*National Coach of the Year a record three times (1961, 1971, 1973)

*Southeastern Conference Coach of the Year a record eight times (1961, 1964, 1971, 1973, 1974, 1977, 1979 and 1981)

*Coach of the Decade for the 1960s by the NCAA

*Coach of the Decade for the 1970s by the past presidents of the Football Writers Association of America

*Southeastern Conference Coach of the Century in a poll of regional media

*Coached Alabama to a record of 103-16-1 during the 1970s, the only time since the formation of the NCAA in 1906 a team has won 100 games in a decade

*Has coached Alabama to a record 24 consecutive bowl games

*Has taken part in a record 31 bowl games (one as a player, one as an assistant coach and 29 as a head coach)

*Coached the 1977-80 Alabama teams to an NCAA record 44 victories in four years

*Coached Alabama to a national record 57 straight football victories on its home field

*Has produced 68 All-America football players (55 at Alabama), including Heisman Trophy winner John David Crow at Texas A&M

*Has produced eight Academic All-Americans

*45 former players and/or assistant coaches have become head coaches either in college or the professional ranks

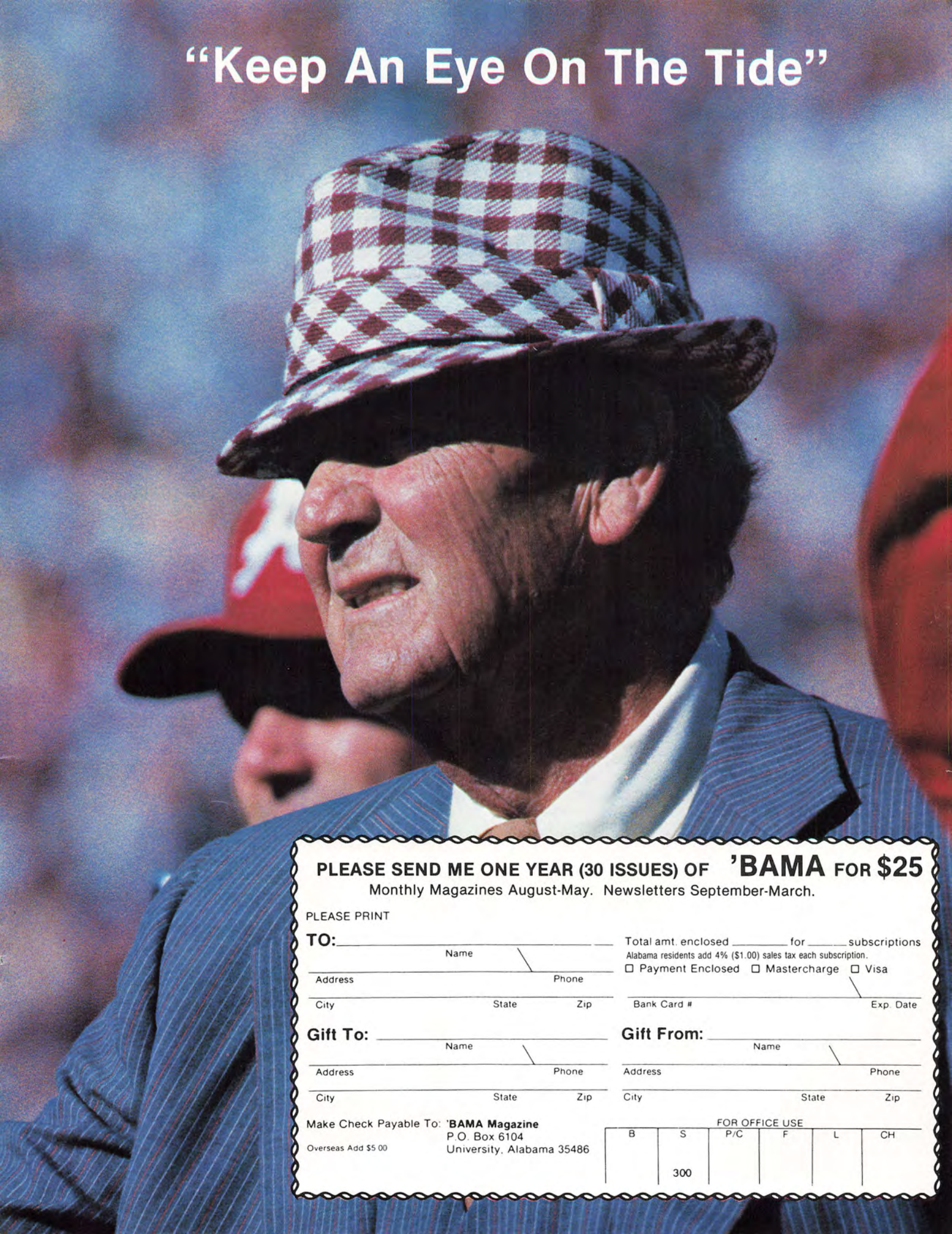
*American Award of Achievement

*National Award from Fellowship of Christians and Jews

*National Commander's Public Relations Award, American Legion

*University Administrator of the Year in Alabama

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